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WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

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["International Observers Roundtable" program with IZVESTIYA political observer Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, international affairs writer Nikolay Vladimirovic Shishlin and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

[Text] [Levin] Good morning, esteemed comrades. In the focus of world politics are the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty. As you know, on 14 and 15 May, a conference of that Political Consultative Committee was held in Warsaw at which the 25 years' work of the fraternal defense alliance, namely, the Warsaw Treaty Organization, in the service of peace was reviewed, and the current tasks in the struggle for detente and security in Europe and for the strengthening of universal peace were examined.

Warsaw Pact Session

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have fully and completely approved the work of the delegation of the Soviet Union, led by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the jubilee conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states.

That conference adopted a number of documents: a declaration, a statement and a communique; and the declaration gives a profound analysis of the present-day European and international situation, and reveals the causes of its exacerbation. And it is these documents that we shall be concentrating on first of all.

[Shishlin] Bearing in mind, naturally, that our listeners will all, of course, certainly have read the documents, so we'll just pick out, a few of the salient points.

[Bovin] Besides that, the work of the Political Consultative Committee also included, as one knows, a broad exchange of opinions by the heads of delegations, both behind closed doors and in open session, such as the introductory speech by Comrade Gierek, and then the speeches at the final reception, also by Comrade Gierek and by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. That material is in itself extensive and significant. One of its significant sections is that in which the past activities of the Warsaw Treaty member states are assessed. Significant, too, is the discussion of international politics of the present day, i.e. the appraisal of the current situation in international affairs and of prospects for its development. And it is all the more significant where it speaks of what must be done, and how, in order for the process of detente to proceed and the cause of peace to be placed on a firm footing. When taking into account the existence of these few aspects and when it is a question of summing up the results of the Political Consultative Committee Conference, we cannot avoid emphasizing that 25 years of the history of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty--25 years of the work of that alliance--have shown that the Warsaw Treaty is, indeed, a very large factor for peace in Europe and, no doubt, on a worldwide scale as well. There is probably no need to enumerate all these initiatives that have been put forward by the socialist countries which are members of the treaty, whether at the Moscow conferences of the Political Consultative Committee, or at the conferences of the Political Consultative Committee in Warsaw, Bucharest, Sofia, Budapest or Prague.

But one thing is quite definite: Each time, the political actions of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty have been directed toward overcoming the cold war, toward developing the process of detente, toward establishing truly good-neighborly and peaceful relations, above all in Europe, but also, in view of Europe's influence on world affairs generally, one can say, in the world as a whole.

Well, so much for the past. As for the present, we shall no doubt be speaking of that in the course of our conversation, both with reference to the analysis given in the Warsaw declaration, and in the context of the realities confronting the world today.

[Shishlin] Well, the main reality would seem to be the growth of international tension and the increasing threat of war. The declaration actually is largely a reaction to that.

[Bovin] Yes, I think the merit of the declaration is precisely in the fact that it gives perfectly clear and accurate answers from principled class positions to the question of who is to blame for the growth of tension, why this growth of tension has occurred and why the danger of war has increased. Because to know where we must go we need to know what our starting point is. We need to know why this or that situation has arisen. Only then can we try to change the course of events and direct them into a healthy and peaceful channel.

[Levin] Of course, a fact that is worthy of attention in this respect, once again worthy of attention, is that at the Warsaw conference of the Political Consultative Committee a unanimous appraisal of the present international situation was given, and it was emphasized that it is the task of the Warsaw Treaty Organization to work toward changing the processes--the negative processes--that are now underway in the world through the fault of the imperialist powers. The question of new peace initiatives arises, and the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee Conference are destined to give a powerful new boost to detente.

[Bovin] In general, I would put the matter this way: It's no secret that during the past 6 months, if we take as our reference point the decisions of the December session of NATO and matters connected with the events over Afghanistan, the West has been rather persistently publicizing the thesis that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries don't want to continue the dialogue with states of a different social system. And the first thing, perhaps--if we're talking about the future--the first thing is precisely that the conference of the Political Consultative Committee shows very plainly that the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty advocate not just that that political dialogue should continue, but that it should be deepened. And, as one knows, this isn't simply a desire, but complete realities, as it were, and they are emobdied in concrete political actions, concrete political acts; and there's quite a lot of evidence of that.

Gromyko Meeting With Muskie

[Levin] Just one example is the participation of USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko in the celebrations for the 25th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty, and his whole series of meetings with foreign ministers of the Western powers. As you know, he had meetings there with French Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet and U.S. Secretary of State Muskie--it was their first meeting, and it lasted 3 hours, as reported from Vienna, and, in the opinion of the sides, was useful. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko also met FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, UN Secretary General Waldheim and Austrian Federal Chancellor Kreisky. In other words, the mere enumeration of these facts already confirms very convincingly the idea of developing contacts, of continuing the dialogue, of the sincere wish of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries for this dialogue with the West.

[Bovin] Well, those are not, of course, the only examples, the more so since we know that Comrade Brezhnev has had a number of very important meetings with statesmen from other parts of the world. But the political dialogue is the necessary tool that simply must be used to turn the course of events into a different and calmer channel.

NATO Session, Documents

[Shishlin] Well, that will evidently be very difficult to do. If, for example, we compare the declaration of the Warsaw conference with the NATO documents that were adopted just on the eve of the Political Consultative Committee conference, then those documents and everything that was said in Brussels testify, in my view, that this turning away from detente--as I think one can call it--has now assumed such dimensions that it is difficult to imagine any quick and easy movements in the opposite direction or any return to the track, to the channel, of detente. Although, of course that prospect does, in principle, exist, and it's the only rational one, of course.

[Bovin] Of course that is so but our past has taught the lesson that detente has not fallen of its own accord to us like manna from heaven in a ready state. One had to fight for it for a long time.

I would just like to draw the attention of our listeners to these NATO documents. This is in connection with the session of the Eurogroup and then the Defense Planning Committee.

[Shishlin] It should be added that generally speaking these are very important NATO bodies, and the defense ministers themselves took part in them.

[Bovin] Yes, and then the foreign ministers recently took part in the session of the Military Planning Committee, which usually does not happen.

What then do these documents speak of? Generally speaking the Americans, as I see it, have succeeded to some degree in moving their European partners further along the path of this solidarity on a path of a noncritical support for the adventurist course of Washington. This has manifested itself in two aspects, I would have said. Generally speaking a kind of formula exists here, that the events in Afghanistan have in essence changed the strategic situation in the world. This is the American formulation that the Europeans earlier had somewhat shied away from because it smelled too much of gunpowder. Yet now we see from these documents that this formulation has been adopted. And the second major aspect: Insofar as it is supposed that the Americans, since they have declared the regions of the Near and Middle East as being of vital importance to themselves, and that in certain situations they will be compelled to dispatch their military forces there, then correspondingly Europe has pledged itself to compensate for this event by strengthening its defense efforts.

Well, this also provides evidence of the fact that the Americans, I repeat, have succeeded in insisting on their political line, although these documents contain enough obscure provisions which give evidence of the fact that the Europeans are still hanging back and are far more prone to thinking about the realities than, let us say, those presently in the White House. Nevertheless these documents as a whole, of course, do not, from my point of view, contain anything of a constructive character. They once again give evidence of the fact that NATO is at present taking up a stance far removed from an understanding of the realities of our times on the fundamental international questions and this, as it were, brings me back to the point on which I started, that this, of course, makes the future struggle for deepening detente more difficult.

[Levin] Aleksandr Yevgenyevich, I would like to confirm the point that you make by concrete facts concerning the session of the NATO Defense Planning Committee. In the fifth clause of the final communique, it states directly that the ministers agreed that the stability of the situation in the regions beyond the sphere of action of NATO--and the formulation here is in truth sufficiently flexible--particularly in Southeast Asia, and uninterrupted supplies of the most important raw materials from that region are of a decisive important significance. The Americans themselves evaluate this as an important turning point in the history of NATO. The Italian paper PAESA SERA writes that this is the most dangerous result of the current NATO meeting, meaning precisely the possible extension of the zone of action of this bloc. Regarding the military efforts in Europe, then a whole program has been adopted here. It foresees an increase in the number of reservists, and a program of training aimed at raising the battle readiness of reserve units in case of an attack, which, as they full well know, cannot happen; the raising of the battle readiness of NATO troops in Europe in general; the stepping up of the war of electronic countermeasures to create interference in the work of technical equipment of a potential enemy; and an increase in stocks of equipment and war supplies for future use in case of war. A total of over $4 billion is being allocated on improving the infrastructure alone. Here, incidentally, I would like to cite some figures on military expenditures by the NATO powers. In 1979 the NATO countries spent a total $211,586 million on military preparations. This is $27.5 billion more than the preceding year. From 1979 to 1990 it is planned to spend $2.604 trillion on the arms race. This is more than in the preceding 30 years of NATO history.

[Shishlin] It is difficult to deal with such figures because it is impossible to picture what a figure of $2 trillion represents!

[Levin] These are truly astronomical figures, but they do speak of the material preparation, military preparations, of a material preparation for war, and, of course, one must pay attention to this. True, it seems that in attempts to sweeten the pill somewhat, the Americans have at the same time announced that they are starting the withdrawal from West Europe of 1,000 nuclear warheads, nuclear shells.

[Shishlin] Obsolete ones.

[Levin] Well, these are obsolete systems. For example, the radio station Europe 1, the French one, characterized these warheads as being fit only for the junk yard. Incidentally how is this question presented? This is an element in the implementation of plans which were adopted at the December session of the NATO Council. To replace these thousand obsolete warheads the Americans want to bring to West Europe the same 572 Pershing II and Tomahawk missiles which were decided on at the December session of the NATO Council.

Muskie Tasks: Iran, ME, USSR

[Bovin] There is a curious and vital point to bring up at this moment. Muskie has arrived in Europe for the first time to take part in these sessions and this will be for his West European colleagues a first viewing of the new secretary of state. If one is to speak generally about Muskie's trip, then it had perhaps three essential political aims, if one omits, that is, NATO problems. First of all he had to push the allies toward sanctions against Iran, to pin them down on this question. Second, he had to forestall the so-called Euro-initiative with regard to Near East matters. Third, according to my list, but not third in importance, is of course the meeting with Gromyko. These perhaps are what his three tasks will be.

Regarding Iranian affairs it is interesting to see what is currently happening in Iran itself. Of course the Iranian-U.S. crisis has placed a somewhat visible stamp on the internal situation in Iran itself and the struggle in progress there, and at present a number of somewhat complex events are taking place. First of all a cultural revolution has begun. At the end of April, as the Iranian leaders themselves called it, a cultural revolution began; the Islamization of higher educational establishments. This was, practically speaking, a struggle to close organizations with a left wing tendency. They were called the "devil's headquarters" and generally speaking the matter ended in clashes. There were victims and some were killed. Such a wave rolled over the whole of Iran.

Then there were the second round of elections on 9 May. These elections resulted in a majority for the Islamic Revolution Party, a kind of orthodox Islamic party. Observers believe that the victory by this party has made the position of Iranian President Bani-Sadr rather difficult. He is considered a relative moderate. It is true that he wanted to carry out a maneouver here and had agreed with Khomeyni that he would appoint a prime minister before the beginning of work by the parliament. However, as odd as it may seem, the Revolution Council was in session a long time and in the end the prime minister was not appointed. It seems that those forces which align themselves with the parliament in its present composition have gained the upper hand. So there is presently a somewhat complex situation there and it seems that things will become a bit clearer when parliament meets. It seems that the first session will be held in Qom at the Khomeyni residence where these members of parliament will be presented, as the newspapers reported, to the people.

Correspondingly, the fate of the hostages has also had an effect on the situation because Khomeyni has said that parliament will decide on their fate. We must wait to see what comes out of it all and hope that the Americans will be sufficiently wise not to try another military adventure, which would add to the unrest and instability in this region, to put it mildly.

[Levin] The Europeans are depending on this but on 12 May the British newspaper, THE OBSERVER, published a long article on the plans of the Pentagon, with the following headline: "The United States Is Planning To Create Bases in Egypt." This article in particular said that President Carter had approved a plan for increasing U.S. military might in the Near East and the Indian Ocean which would enable combat units totalling up to 50,000 men to be transferred to any part of this region which is threatened in a lightning operation.

[Bovin] Yes, of course, but unfortunately one could say that this is a much wider issue than the problem of the hostages. Things are involved here which are unconnected with the problem of Iranian-U.S. relations, but with the overall Pentagon policy on increasing the massive presence of the Americans here, and it involves far wider intrigues.

[Levin] Yes, it says quite specifically that this planned buildup of Western--or more precisely U.S., it has to be frankly said--military presence comprises four factors: First, Egypt will become the base from which lightening operations to transfer troops will be carried out. Second, the rapid construction of new installations on the Anglo-U.S. military base on Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean. That base particularly distrubs India, and for perfectly good reasons. Third, the creation of naval and air force bases in Mombasa in Kenya and in Berbera in Somalia. And fourth, the buildup of U.S. naval presence in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf as if that buildup was not already enough.

In other words, extraordinarily dangerous plans, and the final sentence in that OBSERVER article says: In Washington, even liberal circles, it is considered that the world has already entered a new phase of the cold war.

[Shishlin] Well, generally speaking perhaps, and here I am in debt to Aleksandr Yevgenyevich for what he said, this is just part of even broader problems. This is an attitude to those crisis situation which exist in the world today, and here it is that we have the stress on strength as a means of resolving those situations. That is where the main danger lies.

[Bovin] Yes. While, for example, the Warsaw Treaty member states at their meeting of the Political Consultative committee came out in favor of a different approach, namely, in favor of settling the existing crisis situations by political means. And they listed in a quite definite manner the paths that could lead to the undoing of those complicated knots in international politics, regardless of where the knots were formed in the first place.

DRA Events, Government Statement

[Shishlin] Of course, the Afghan problem is of considerable importance. That is clear. And in this respect, world attention has been attracted by the statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA].

[Levin] Yes. The DRA Government states there that it is in the context of a political settlement that the question of the withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingent should be solved. The statement says frankly that the cessation and guaranteed nonresumption of armed incursions or other forms of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs would remove the reasons which compelled Afghanistan to request the USSR to bring in this contingent to its territory. Specifically, the question of withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will depend on the solution of the question of effective guarantees of bilateral accords between Afghanistan and Pakistan, and between Afghanistan and Iran. That is a question of principle, and of course this question is now drawing particular attention.

[Bovin] Well, it is evident that it is the events connected with Afghanistan and the events that have happened around Afghanistan undoubtedly, well, I would imagine them, I think, to be a sort of hook on which the West is trying to hang simply all international problems.

[Shishlin] Our approach is to view the situation in Afghanistan through the prism of all those existing major global factors connected with detente. Carter's attitude, however, is the opposite: He views all these world events through the prism of Afghanistan, and, of course, the real picture here becomes, so to speak, quite shifted out of focus, distorted. And it must be said that the U.S. reaction to that statement is all in all, in my view, far from a constructive approach. In Washington critical statements have even been made about Muskie's meeting with Gromyko. Typical in this respect was an article by the Republican Senator Danforth. He wrote: What on earth is happening? Why is Muskie meeting with Gromyko? We have taken a principled stand against the Soviet Union, and we must not climb down from that stand. We should not be having any meetings between Muskie and Gromyko, but should be increasing our military supplies to the rebels in Afghanistan. That is how the most zealous proponents of that adventurist course are viewing the issue. And it must be said that so far overall they have had an enormous influence there, and all this must be taken into account.

Chances for Detente

[Bovin] What we have here is simply a polarity, of attitudes: the attitude of the socialist countries and the Soviet Union, and the attitude of the United States and NATO.

And it must be said that while the course of events has been developing in such a way that this polarity has been becoming more marked, the schism, so to speak, between these two attitudes has been becoming deeper. Naturally, the question arises as to whether bridges can be built across this abyss. I think that these bridges can be built, and herein lies the essence of the edeas which were put forward in the Polish capital. From Warsaw there truly resounded the voice of peace, reason and goodwill. This applies, too, to the proposal of Warsaw Treaty member states to hold in the near future a meeting at the very highest level of the chiefs of state of all parts of the world devoted essentially too... [interrupted]

[Shishlin] Conflict situations.

[Bovin] Yes, conflict situations, to overcoming those conflict situations and preventing war. Of course, the near future will show to what degree the Western countries, and not only the Western countries, will be ready to respond positively to that initiative. But the fact is that the channels for communication is open, the channels for dialogue are open, and not a single door has been slammed shut by the socialist countries in their attempt to resolve international disputes.

[Levin] At their meeting in the Polish capital, the Warsaw Treaty member states came out in favor of continuing and deepening the dialogue between countries belonging to different social systems and in favor of broad interaction between all peace-loving forces. That meeting gives sure guidelines for moving forward to the consolidation of peace in Europe and throughout the whole world. In conclusion I should again to quote the document adopted by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers on the results of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, which expresses the conviction that the friendship and cohesion of the fraternal countries of socialism and the further development of cooperation between them and all peace-loving states and abroad public forces will lead to fresh successes in the policy of detente and will make the 1980's years of peace and peaceful construction. And this is the lofty aim that the socialist countries set themselves. For the sake of this aim they are carrying out active, harmonized foreign policy activity, and this was most vividly expressed in the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee in the Polish capital.

Here we end our broadcast. Thank you for listening. All the best, dear listeners.

MONDALE CLAIM OF SOVIET CONSTRUCTION OF AFGHAN AIRBASE HIT

LD161037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 80 p 5

[Text] New York, 14 May TASS--Official Washington, which is fond of all kinds of anti-Soviet fabrications, has given birth to the latest "sensation." Vice President W. Mondale, speaking in Cleveland (Ohio), stated: "We have information to the effect that the Soviet Union is constructing a major military airfield in southwest Afghanistan at which new aircraft will be based with a view to control of the Persian Gulf."

However, this "sensation" did not last long. Literally a few hours after consultations with competent experts W. Mondale had to retract his statement. "As a result of further analysis the intelligence services have reported that the information on the construction of an airfield has not been confirmed," his official spokesman admitted.

In other words the U.S. vice president, seizing incautiously on the latest "canard" cooked up by the CIA, got himself into a mess, as they say. And that would be an end of it, were it not for one thing. Recently many high-ranking representatives of the U.S. administration have been coming out readily and with increasing frequency with all kinds of fables concerning some kind of "evil designs" on the part of the Soviet Union.

The President's National Security Adviser Z. Brzezinski is particularly zealous in this. It is he who was the author of the absurd fabrication on the imaginary concentration of Soviet troops in the region of the Soviet-Iranian border, which was taken up eagerly by American propaganda. Not even a public refutation by Iran, which declared the absolute groundlessness of these assertions, soothed the Washington ill-wishers.

The list of such fabrications, each more absurd than the last, could be continued. It is apposite to ask: Who needs all this, and why? After all, it is well known that it is the United States which is constructing airfields and other military facilities in the Middle East and Indian Ocean regions, at a distance of many thousands of kilometers from America's shores. It is the United States which has created a major base in the region on Diego Garcia Island, which used airfields in Egypt to carry out the armed provocation against the Islamic Republic of Iran and which is seeking access to military bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya. It is the United States which has massed an unprecedented naval armada in the Persian Gulf, threatening the countries of that region.

Obviously, the Washington administration needs more and more new anti-Soviet fabrications precisely in order to distract the world public's attention from all these facts testifying to the buildup of the American military presence in the Near East, which constitutes a direct threat to countries and peoples in the region.

BUILDUP OF MILITARY PRESENCE SEEN AROUND IRAN

LD161219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 80 p 5

[Text] Washington, 13 May TASS--White House spokesman J. Powell has issued new threats against Iran, stating at a press conference that the continued detention of the hostages will cost the Iranian side "increasingly dear." Powell refused to comment on whether plans are now being devised for another aggressive action against Iran, as the American press reports.

San Francisco, 13 May--The massive concentration of combat hardware and armaments for shipping to "specified regions" of the Indian Ocean is continuing at Port Hueneme Naval Base (California).

M-60 tanks painted desert colors, amphibious landing ships, artillery pieces, antitank guns, armored transporters, jeeps and other military hardware are being delivered there round the clock from many military bases on U.S. territory. The equipment is to be transferred to permanent military bases at various points in the Near and Middle East and southwest Asia. UPI reports that "the military buildup of combat hardware in Port Hueneme, a deep-water port between San Francisco and San Diego, is on a scale unparalleled since Vietnam and is reminiscent of World War II times." In approximately a week from now it is planned to send the first consignment of military hardware and armament abroad seven transport ships "to the location of the American naval forces deployed near the powder keg of Iran and the other oil-rich countries" of the Persian Gulf, UPI points out. This first arms consignment is designed to fully equip a 16,000-strong U.S. marine brigade.

New York, 13 May--The ABC television company has reported that certain secret documents and maps found at the site of the American landing in Iran have come into its hands. They were extracted by the Iranian authorities from beneath the wreckage left in the desert after the collision between a helicopter and a C-130 military transport aircraft. These maps, the ABC correspondent reported, make it possible to reconstruct in detail the whole course of the operation which the American commandos were to implement. It is clear from the ABC report that American agents in Iran, particularly in its capital, had carried out much careful work to prepare to receive the commando landing. Thus, according to the maps, 12 helicopter landing sites and 2 airfields, from which the C-130 military transport aircraft were to have evacuated the Americans had operation "Eagle's Claw" succeeded, were chosen in Tehran alone.

Tokyo, 13 May--Japan's JIJI press agency has reported U.S. administration plans to deploy a 50,000-strong contingent of American soldiers in the Near and Middle East and Indian Ocean.

Tehran, 13 May--As a correspondent of the newspaper BAMDAD was told by the Iranian Air Force staff, yesterday afternoon five helicopters stationed on American aircraft carriers near the Persian Gulf sprayed onto the sea near the Rostam oilfield, south of Lavan Island, chemicals that burst into flames and burned for a long time. The student "followers of Ayatollah Khomeyni's course" have met here with representatives of the "American Committee for Defense of the Iranian Revolution". The local press reports that the American representatives gave the students a message expressing support for the demand that the deposed shah be extradited to Iran.

## Senator Calls for New Rescue

LD151433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 80 p 5

[Excerpt] Washington, 12 May, TASS--The United States is continuing to fuel war hysteria over Iran. Senator G. Hart, a member of the influential Senate Armed Services Committee, has called for the rapid mounting of a new military operation to rescue the U.S. "diplomats" from Iran. In an interview with CBS-TV the senator asserted that the U.S. commandos' act of sabotage must be repeated, despite the fact that the chances of success will now be reduced and the risk increased. Hart unambiguously demanded that the U.S. allies, whom "the United States is assisting economically and defending on the military plane," support military and economic sanctions against Iran.

C. Legum, Washington correspondent of the British newspaper THE OBSERVER has reported the U.S. administration's intention to establish a whole network of U.S. military bases in the Near and Middle East.

Paris, 12 May--Commenting on reports of Pentagon plans to deploy U.S. interventionist forces at U.S. bases in Egypt, Kenya, Somalia and Oman, the newspaper L'HUMANITE stresses that "President Carter has again made up his mind to resort to the use of arms in the Near East."

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON PRC MISSILE TEST

Protests Cited

LD181120 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY says China today tested its first intercontinental ballistic missile in the Pacific. Earlier Japan, Papua-New Guinea, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and other countries of the Pacific protested against the testing of a Chinese missile which could carry a nuclear warhead.

'Threat to U.S. Security'

LD161411 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 16 May 80

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Summary] There was an announcement last week of a test between 12 May and 10 June involving a carrier rocket. Military experts have no doubt that a new intercontinental ballistic missile will be tested. Japanese experts have stated that this missile--the CSSX-4--would be capable of reaching the United States.

"According to military experts, China already has medium-range missiles which can reach the territory of the Soviet Union, countries in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and other neighboring areas. So the development of the new intercontinental rocket, the CSSX-4, is not connected with Beijing's plans regarding these areas. It is connected with global strategy of world domination pursued by the Chinese leaders and this strategy represents a real threat to United States security. And it is President's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski who has initiated the policy of playing the Chinese card against the Soviet Union. What will he say now with connection with the announcement of Beijing's plan to develop the intercontinental armaments capable of reaching the United States? China's leaders seem to be playing the American card against America's security. It is also notable that the present intercontinental ballistic rocket test has been announced in Beijing soon after another official statement saying that a new world war is inevitable. Deng Xiaoping said that a new world war may be postponed for 20 years but not prevented for ever. The Chinese strategists probably intend to use these two decades for the implementation of their declared military modernization with the help of American technology. Let's also recall that China refuses to sign any international agreements on limiting and reducing nuclear missile weapons. Under such circumstances, further development of sophisticated long-range rockets by Beijing inevitably aggravates stability in the world."

PCI VISIT TO BEIJING BOLSTERS PRC STRATEGY

LD151658 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 15 May 80

["On the Visit of the Italian Communist Party Delegation to Beijing Scanning the Chinese Press"--TASS headline]

[Text] [No dateline received] As is known, an official visit was recently paid to Beijing by an Italian Communist Party delegation. Of undoubted interest, in this connection, are Chinese press comments on the motives, the course and the results of the talks.

During the preparations for and throughout the duration of the visit the Chinese side did not conceal that it viewed it in the overall context of its international policy. The hosts did not hesitate to propound extensively for the benefit of their guests their well known concepts of world development and their views on the present international situation, including their utterly anti-Soviet ideas.

These concepts stem from the general aim of China's foreign policy formulated at the 11th Congress of the CPC and subsequent sessions of the National People's Congress. It has been reiterated on many occasions, in the recent period too, in the pronouncements by Chinese leaders that the main task is "to unite with all the forces in the world, with which it is possible to unite, for joint struggle against Soviet hegemonism." What forces are implied is known. The Chinese leadership, especially in the recent period, has been "uniting" and promoting ties primarily with the world's most reactionary forces, such as the American hawks and the British conservatives, NATO generals and the Japanese militarists, Chile's Pinochet and the ousted shah of Iran. In January 1980 Deng Xiaoping, deputy chairman of the CPC CC and deputy premier of the State Council of the PRC, told U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown that China, the United States, Western Europe and Japan should unite in a common front against the Soviet Union.

"The Carter administration should fill the incipient American-Chinese alliance with concrete content," he said.

PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua spoke in the same vein: "The USA must protect the interests of the whole world against the USSR" and "China takes a favourable view of the EEC and the North Atlantic alliance and considers that they should display no sign of appeasement in regard to Moscow." Recently Hua Guofeng sermonized: "It is necessary for Japan to enhance its defence capability, especially its air power, in order to stand up to the Soviet military threat."

It is indicative that during the preparations for the visit of the ICP delegation to the PRC and during the visit itself there took place a further intensive rapprochement of China with imperialism and world reaction and the stepping up of the political, ideological and diplomatic struggle against the USSR, other socialist countries and progressive newly independent states. Beijing went on haranging vehemently about "the growing Soviet threat," denouncing detente, calling upon everybody to arm themselves, and scaremongering about an impending large-scale and even nuclear war." Despite the failure of China's aggression against Vietnam in 1979 and the condemnation of that action by practically all the communist parties and progressive forces, Beijing speaks of the possibility of teaching a "new lesson" to Vietnam and continues to meddle in the affairs of neighbouring Asian states.

On the eve of the arrival of the Italian guests, Deng Xiaoping declared cynically that China was not afraid of a world war, being so poor that it had not much to lose in it. And during the visit he reiterated the well-known Maoist contention regarding the inevitability of a new world war. "War will take place sooner or later....So far as China is concerned, it is desirable that there should be no war at least for the next twenty years."

Deng frankly reaffirmed also Beijing's policy of ganging up with U.S. imperialism. "Maintaining friendly relations between our country and the U.S." he said, "is not a measure dictated by considerations of the moment, but a longterm, strategic policy."

Contrary to the assurances that the meeting of the CPC and ICP leaders would not be directed against third parties, the Beijing leaders openly imparted an anti-Soviet colouring to it. Speaking at receptions and press conferences on the occasion of the ICP delegation's visit, they left no doubt that their policy was spearheaded against the Soviet Union and the CPSU.

Hua Guofeng declared outright that Chinese-Soviet relations would not improve. To justify this line, Deng Xiaoping again referred to the mythical "Soviet threat" to China.

"The relations between China and the Soviet Union," he explained, "have long since gone beyond the sphere of polemics.... We are faced with a grave threat from the Soviet Union, and it is no longer merely a matter of polemics."

CC CPC General Secretary Hu Yaobang rejected the possibility of contacts between the CPC and the CPSU. CPC leaders laid claim to the role of kind of supreme arbiter in the international communist movement that would decide whether or not the policy of one or another particular party was correct or incorrect, with disassociation" from the CPSU and "resolute struggle" against it being the criterion of "correctness."

During the ICP delegation's visit, which coincided with the 110th birth anniversary of Lenin, Chinese propaganda material timed for the date abounded in crude anti-Soviet attacks.

The delegation of the Italian Communists could not agree with some aspects of China's policy. "We do not agree to regard the Soviet Union as an enemy." ICP General Secretary Enrico Berlinguer pointed out. Disagreement of the ICP representatives with the CPC leadership was manifested also in their attitude to the projected alliance with the United States, West European countries and Japan contemplated by Beijing, to the problems of war and peace, to China's aggression against Vietnam.

No joint document on the results of the visit was adopted. The Chinese side appraised the visit as an "event of historic significance," as a "new stage of development."

Welcoming Enrico Berlinguer at the Beijing airport on April 14, Hu Yaobang said that he regarded CPC-ICP relations as "already normalized" "fifteen years have passed in a zigzag way," Deng Xiaoping said at a meeting with the ICP delegation. "There have been changes both on your side and ours. And now, at long last, the parties of China and Italy have come together." "It is no secret that disagreements exist," he said in an interview to Italian journalists. "However...today we shall leave the disagreements aside." Asked about his attitude to the condemnation by the Italian Communist Party of some aspects of Chinese policy, such as Beijing's aggression against Vietnam, Deng replied that that "does not matter."

The Chinese press lays special emphasis on the ICP being "independent of the Soviet Union," on its support for the integration of Western Europe and its rejection of an uncompromising struggle against the policy of NATO. At the same time, the idea is propounded that its ties with the USSR prevent the ICP from entering the government of its country as they give rise to apprehensions among other Italian political parties.

The materials published in the Chinese press leave no doubt that from the very start the move to restore party contacts with the ICP was conceived in Beijing as a component of the overall strategy of knocking together a "broad front" for struggle against the Soviet Union, against countries of the socialist community.

Beijing is patently bent on using the establishment of interparty contacts with the ICP to restore its lost prestige among the communists and all the democratic, revolutionary and liberation forces of our time, while leaving intact the aggressive, proimperialist thrust of its foreign policy. Beijing's actions are indicative of an attempt to split the communist movement. Beijing would like to capitalize on the prestige of the ICP to intensify interference in the struggle of the peoples for national liberation, against imperialism. Insofar as the coincidence of the "strategic interests" of China and the USA is concealed neither in Beijing nor in Washington, this intention acquires a particularly sinister meaning. Washington wants China to be its Trojan horse in the revolutionary liberation movement.

It is worth noting in this connection that during the ICP delegation's stay in the PRC the American press actively discussed the role of China and of the Chinese-American alliance as a factor in the struggle against the revolutionary movement. For instance, Michael Pillsbury, national security adviser for the Senate who is considered an expert on Chinese strategy, quite openly stated that "the possibility of joint American-Chinese action in Asia would take a great deal of weight off NATO's shoulders" He went on to say: "It would be useful to the U.S. to be told by the Chinese who's who in revolutionary movements overseas. American officials find it difficult to be sensitive to differences among revolutionary leaders. This is China's business and it could guide us.... For example, Angola might have been less of a fiasco for America if we had conferred with the Chinese. Situations like Angola will become even more frequent in the 1980's."

Thus, to the Chinese leadership the importance of the Beijing meeting goes far beyond the normalization of interparty relations between the CPC and the ICP far-reaching calculations and plans are linked with it.

The Chinese press is going all out to show to the Chinese communists and to the international communist movement that, far from changing the present policy of the Chinese leadership, the visit of the delegation of the Italian Communist Party has bolstered it up. It would seem that objectively this is the case, although the positions of the ICP differ from those of Beijing.

PARLIAMENTARY CRISIS CONFRONTS JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

House of Representatives Dissolved

LD190745 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Tokyo, May 19, TASS--The House of Representatives of Japan's parliament was officially dissolved today. This was done under the decision of the government of the Liberal Democratic Party in connection with the no-confidence motion expressed on May 16 by the lower chamber to the cabinet of Masayoshi Ohira and the refusal of the latter to resign. The pre-term elections to the House of Representatives will be held on June 22, at the same time with regular elections to the House of Councillors. Japan has landed in a profound political crisis caused by the reactionary rule of the Liberal Democrats, by the anti-popular nature of their home and foreign policy, which caused an outbreak of indignation of the masses and actual split within the ruling party. All political parties and groupings already started preparations to the election to both chambers of parliament, as a result of which an end can be put to the prolonged one-party rule of the Liberal Democratic Party and a road can be opened to the formation of a coalition government.

Kuchko Report

LD162254 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Tokyo, May 16, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Kuchko reports: Today Japan was hit by a government crisis of proportions unseen in the last two and a half decades. The lower chamber of parliament moved to hold vote of non-confidence to the Cabinet of Ministers of Masayoshi Ohira. The draft resolution on non-confidence to the government of the Liberal Democratic Party, tabled by the Socialist Party and supported by all the other opposition parties, received 243 deputy votes in favour and 187 against. There were 80 abstentions including those of members of the Liberal Democratic Party.

In a statement before the vote, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan Itio Asukata charged Ohira's government with not honouring its pledges to hold down the growth of prices and to improve the position of the working people. The government, he said, ignores opposition's demands to carry out a detailed investigation into cases of bribery among the conservative deputies. In the field of foreign policy, leader of the Socialist Party of Japan pointed out, the government follows in the wake of Washington's policy rather than to strive actively to reduce international tensions and to contain the aggressive strategy of the United States.

Today's voting attests to an outbreak of discontent not only in the ranks of the opposition, but also among Liberal Democrats over the self-defeating policy of the Ohira government both at home and internationally, over his course of intensified militarisation and support for the adventurist U.S. policy at the expense of Japan's national interests. At the same time, the result of the voting reflects an acute crisis in the governing party torn asunder by internal contradictions as a result of the power struggle between leaders of the opposed factions. In the opinion of local observers the present events will have a serious impact on the internal political situation in the country and can lead to important changes in the alignment of forces both among the Liberal Democrats and in Japan's political arena as a whole.

This evening the Cabinet of Ministers at its emergency session decided to disband the lower chamber and to hold general elections. It is expected that they will be held on June 22 of this year.

TSVETOV RAPS OHIRA DIET REMARKS ON DEFENSE BUILDUP

OW161115 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Prime Minister Ohira, reporting to the Diet on his visit to the United States and other countries, said that he was fully aware of the need for Japan's defense buildup and that he would take necessary steps to meet this need. Radio Moscow's Tokyo correspondent Tsvetov comments on this statement by Prime Minister Ohira as follows:

As the Ohira statement clearly indicates, Japan is planning for a sharp increase in defense spending next year as a step toward a military buildup. Japan's militarization, based on Article 3 of the Japan-U.S. security treaty, has become a publicly declared policy line.

In the face of the nationwide movement against the Japan-U.S. military alliance, the security treaty planners were forced to include under Article 3 a clause stating that each signatory--Japan in this case--in meeting the obligations concerning the development of military strength shall do so under the condition that it is done in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Judging from Prime Minister Ohira's remarks in the Diet, however, it appears that the Japanese monopoly capitalists have decided that the time has now come to act in the militarist and aggressive spirit of the security treaty and disregard the abovementioned clause. Earlier, business leaders including Kosai Hyuga, Takeshi Sakurada and Tadashi Sasaki have repeatedly preached about the need for a military buildup.

As the recession continues, monopoly capital sees the arms race as the only way to insure high profits. In arms manufacture, both buyer as well as seller occupy a monopoly position and this insures continuously high profits. The buyer is the government, which owes its existence to the support from big business. Naturally, the government will serve the interests of big business. It will of course do those things necessary to insure profits for its masters, by generously giving arms manufacturers the money it takes from citizens in the form of taxes. It makes little difference to the government whether the people like it or not.

While Japan's "peace" Constitution is dedicated to checking the militarist ambitions of the monopoly capitalists and government, the ruling circles are making it increasingly clear every year that they do not care about the constitution. They have become even bolder in pursuing the line of militarization, regarding the passage of the era-name [gengo] legislation through the Diet as a successful offensive against the "peace" constitution.

As facts have recently often indicated, civilian control over the activities of the defense agency exists now only in name. Should the Liberal-Democratic Party [LDP] succeed in having the Diet pass the "national emergency bill," it will be finally putting an end to civilian control and give the military and the arms manufacturers their long-awaited freedom. They will then pursue the line of militarization earnestly.

Whereas monopoly capital, the LDP and the rightist factions form a united front favoring militarization, the antiwar movement in Japan unfortunately lack effective unity. Worse still, some opposition leaders have given their approval to the security treaty and the existence of the Self-Defense Forces. Needless to say, this creates a political climate which favors the implementation of militarist plans.

Japan is now approaching a dangerous precipice beyond which it could fall into the same abyss into which in the past the financial clique [zaibatsu] and the militarist government had pushed the Japanese people.

SOUTH KOREAN MILITARY COUP, REPRISALS REPORTED

ID181303 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Tokyo, May 18, TASS--The military has again seized power in South Korea. A state of emergency has been introduced throughout the country and the cities placed under army control. Troops, supported by tanks and armoured personnel carriers were introduced in the central districts of Seoul last night. Thousands of soldiers blocked approaches to government buildings, radio and television stations and newspaper offices. Any political activities are banned.

The military rulers, led by Lieutenant-General Chon Tu-hwan, director of the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency and commander of Public Security Troops, have begun reprisals against students and workers who took part in recent mass demonstrations throughout South Korea.

Hundreds of armed policemen took yesterday by storm the campus of the Ewha University and arrested several dozen leaders of student organisations. More than twenty opposition leaders were put into prison, among them Kim Tae-chung, well-known leader of the opposition, former candidate to the presidency, as well as intellectuals and clergymen.

The South Korean News Agency HAPTONG TONGHIN reports that General Whitham, commander of the Joint American-South Korean Armed Forces, is to return to Seoul by a special plane from Washington. He left there four days ago to receive instructions on how to check the struggle of the South Korean people for democracy and against the policy of terror and persecution.

The recent events in South Korea, writes the Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI today, represent an actual military coup and a takeover by the right-wing of the Seoul military which demands a tough policy to suppress any public demonstrations in defence of democracy. "The present developments in South Korea bring to mind the seizure of power by Pak Chong-hui in 1961," the newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN writes.

Razuvayev on Demonstrations

ID181105 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0350 GMT 18 May 80

[Vyacheslav Razuvayev PRAVDA international commentary: "Seoul is Feverish"]

[Excerpt] The political situation in South Korea is incandescent. Every day there is news of massive antigovernment demonstrations by students. They are actively supported by workers and peasants, representatives of the intelligentsia and public figures. There are loud demands for broad democratic reforms. Intimidated by the scope of people's dissatisfaction, the rulers of Seoul have taken recourse to repressions. The other day the authorities issued an order for army units to be brought to Seoul where antigovernment demonstrations had especially escalated. The South Korean Army has been put in a state of full combat alert.

The current wave of antigovernment actions is the biggest in South Korea since the events of last October when the Seoul ruler Pak Chong-hui was assassinated. The removal of the dictator, however, has in fact led to no changes whatever. The regime has remained the same. Terror still rules the country. The antipopular constitution and draconian laws which were introduced by Pak are in force. An atmosphere of anticommunist hysteria and war pshchosis reigns. The economic situation is growing worse. Urban unemployment is increasing. Peasants and small firms are facing ruin. Taxes and prices are steadily rising, the commentator notes.

KESHTMAND CITES POLITICAL, IDEOLOGICAL AIMS OF GOVERNMENT

LD181704 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, 18 May, TASS--Speaking in an interview with the Polish PERSPEKTYWY weekly, Deputy Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said that the internationalist aid given by the Soviet Union to the Afghan people has been counterposed to the interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs by the imperialist circles led by the USA as well as by Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan and China.

At present, he said, we are working to strengthen the political and ideological unity of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the entire Afghan people and have achieved positive results in this field. Measures are taken for strengthening the state sector in the economy, setting up cooperative organizations and to ensure the supply of the population with basic foodstuffs at reasonable and stable prices. We devote considerable attention to the development in the country of a transport network and opening jobs for the unemployed. The republic has for the first time ever drawn up a yearly plan for socio-economic development, and its provisions are being consistently implemented.

Our main objective, the deputy prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan went on to say, is to end the country's backwardness and embark on the path of development. We strive for strengthening friendship between all tribes inhabiting Afghanistan, for creating an internal political structure based on the principles of collective leadership and democratic centralism.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand pointed out that the construction of a new life in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is impeded by internal and external counterrevolutionary forces. Agent provocateurs are trying to violate public order and are coming out against the interests of the republic. In so doing the enemies of the April revolution are relying for support on international imperialism and other external forces receving from them military, financial and other aid. The people of Afghanistan are successfully countering all of these attempts and are determined to uphold the gains of the April revolution. They are confidently building a new Afghanistan.

KARMAL GIVES SPEECH ON PARTY 'DISCIPLINE'

LD161159 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Along the Path of Strengthening the Revolution"]

[Text] Kabul, 13 May--The speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, at a meeting of PDPA city and provincial activists held in Kabul has been published here. The speech concentrated on the results of the PDPA Central Committee April plenum and the tasks stemming from its decisions. Babrak Karmal pointed to the importance of the second stage of the April revolution and of resolving the urgent tasks of strengthening party unity and raising its members' ideological and political standards.

The PDPA, Babrak Karmal stressed, is a living organism that develops on a long-term basis and is indissolubly linked with the revolutionary changes in our society. At the stage where the party is developing, it is coming up against new problems and seeking out new organizational forms and methods of work. Of course, the start of the new stage of the April revolution and its further development will have an impact on our party. Conditions demand the achievement of real political, ideological and organizational unity in the party and the constant cohesion of PDPA members around the Central Committee and Politburo.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee dwelt in detail on the importance of the party regulations approved by the plenum. He stressed, in particular, that the regulations define the PDPA as a party of the new type whose activity is based on revolutionary theory.

PDPA members, Babrak Karmal said, must combat all manifestations of factionalism, chauvinism, nationalism, narrow interests, revisionism, dogmatism, "leftwing" and rightwing opportunism and subjectivism, and all kinds of provocations and slander inside the party.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee called on PDPA members to trust their party and state leadership and to strengthen that trust, and not to fall for the insinuations of the Afghan revolution's enemies. "So far as I personally am concerned," he stressed, "I guarantee party unity."

In conclusion Babrak Karmal stressed that only discipline in all party components, great discipline by all party members in accordance with their positions in the PDPA and in society, is the main condition of party unity.

SARBOLAND ATTENDS HERAT MEETING; TAKEOVER OF CITY DENIED

LD172106 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Kabul, May 17, TASS--There was a meeting in Herat of Minister of Information and Culture of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan 'Abdolmajid Sarboland with representatives of the working people, intelligentsia and clergy of that city. During the meeting, the minister summed up the tasks of the country at the new stage of the April revolution, described the steps that are taken by the leadership of the country to ensure peaceful life of the working people the construction of new society in the country. He stressed that the party and state leadership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan expresses the hope that due to unity and cohesion of different sections of the population, the Afghan people will frustrate all intrigues and plots of the enemies of the April revolution and intrigues and plots that are prepared by the reactionary forces headed by U.S. imperialism.

The participants in the meeting expressed resolute support for the policy of the Afghan leadership and declared their readiness to contribute to the defence of the motherland and the revolution.

The BAKHTAR agency sharply criticised the false propaganda of the imperialist circles that try to misrepresent the situation in the country, to mislead the world public opinion. The agency's statement says that one of the latest examples of such lies are slanderous allegations that the city of Herat is held by the counterrevolutionary forces. These reports spread by the imperialist propaganda are absolutely groundless and clearly follow provocative aims. The city of Herat lives normal, tranquil life, the statement says.

FURTHER ON AFGHAN STATEMENT ON IRAN, PAKISTAN

Kabul NEW TIMES Assessment

LD190850 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Kabul, May 19, TASS--The proposals of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for a settlement of relations with Pakistan and Iran testify to its persistent efforts to maintain friendly relations with neighbouring countries, writes the Kabul NEW TIMES.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Government of the DRA, the article says, are interested in developing friendly relations and cooperation with all countries, especially with neighbouring states and Moslem peoples. The key stones of the DRA's policy are preservation of peace and the social and economic development of the country for the benefit of the Afghan people who want to live in peace with their neighbours.

The government and people of Afghanistan, the article says, are guided in their policy by the principles of peaceful coexistence, non-alignment and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. For the people of Afghanistan preservation of peace means respect for the right of the peoples to independent development.

The newspaper expresses the hope that the proposals made by the Government of the DRA will be positively assessed by the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan. It is also said in the article that a political settlement of the problems causing tension in the region will give the Government of the DRA an opportunity of carrying out its social and economic programme in order to raise the living standards of the people of Afghanistan. The DRA's peace initiatives, the Kabul NEW TIMES stresses, are a tremendous contribution to the cause of peace in the region and throughout the world.

Pozner Commentary

LD171252 Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 17 May 80

[Vladimir Pozner commentary]

[Text] Yesterday our Soviet national papers published the full text of the peace proposals made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. This seven-point statement outlines concrete steps that if implemented, will lead to the normalization of the situation in that region and, no less important, to an improvement of the deteriorating international situation. The Afghan proposals, certainly a major event, stimulated nothing short of worldwide interest. I stated the fact but it is also something I can justify to personally. Yesterday I had four phone calls from different radio stations asking me to comment on the Kabul statement. Irish radio, the BBC News Service in Cardiff, Wales, a London BBC news program and a French station called, all wanting a Soviet reaction and I believe that interest speaks for itself.

I do not know how well you are acquainted with exactly what the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan proposed but I would venture a guess, I would even give you odds that no American daily has published the text in full. And I know, in parentheses, that that is a reflection of how the news is doctored by the free press. But that is another matter. I say it only to make this point: Try to get a copy of the full statement and then read it carefully. I promise you will find it worth your while, and it also just might help you decide who is right, those who wrote the proposal off almost as soon as it was made or those who say it is a very seriously, deeply thought-out authentic effort to bring peace to southwest Asia by taking into account all the interests of the parties involved.

During the telephone interviews two questions kept recurring. One was did I really think that should the proposals be accepted the Soviet troops would be withdrawn. A strange question, to be sure. President Brezhnev stated unequivocally that all Soviet troops would be withdrawn provided the proper guarantees of noninterference into Afghanistan's internal affairs were given. There has not been a single instance when the Soviet Union has pledged to do something and then not done it. There is no reason whatever to doubt its intentions concerning the Afghan situation. And I'm quite sure that Washington does not doubt (?this) for a minute. The U.S. administration knows only too well that we are ready to withdraw our troops provided there is no external aggression, which is what the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government wants and has formulated in its proposals.

And that brings me to the second issue. The interviewers wanted to know how I viewed what looks like the out-of-hand rejection of those proposals by Washington. Well, how can one view that? What it indicates with almost brutal clarity is that the United States simply refuses to accept the fact of a government friendly to the Soviet Union and with the goal of building socialism existing in Afghanistan. That is not exactly a new position. It took the United States 16 years to recognize the existence of the Soviet Government. Twenty-one years after the Cuban revolution the U.S. still does not have diplomatic relations with that country. Just two out of many similar cases. In other words Washington wants another government in Afghanistan and since that is what Washington wants it does not give a tinker's damn about the Afghanis' revolution of April 1978. It could not care less about the desires of the people of Afghanistan and finally, it is not interested in peace being established in that part of the world. President Carter's statements to the contrary, Washington does not want Soviet troops withdrawn from Afghanistan, for their presence is what President Carter has based his election campaign on those are the reasons why the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's proposals have been written off.

## U.S., Pakistani Response Scored

LD180956 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 18 May 80

["Friends and Enemies of Afghanistan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes: Enormous attention and widespread support--this is how one can describe international public reaction to the peace-loving and constructive initiatives of Afghanistan as set forth in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Government statement published on 14 May. Eminent political and public figures and the press of various countries stress that the statement in question is an exclusively [isklyuchitelno] important document which convincingly confirms that the basis of the DRA's foreign policy activity is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and the policy of positive and active neutrality, that the DRA Government aspires persistently and sincerely to a political settlement.

At the same time the statement by the DRA Government has also given rise to "responses" of a different nature, which testify that certain circles in the West, particularly the United States, which are hostile to revolutionary Afghanistan, do not intend to desist from their subversive actions against that sovereign country. Characteristic in this connection is the statement by official Washington alleging that the DRA proposals are "cosmetic in nature," and that, as State Department spokesman Reston has stated, they "contain no essentially new elements."

These American statements, which clearly have the aim of discrediting the Afghan initiatives and belittling their significance, are echoed by a statement from the British Foreign Office asserting that the "Afghan proposals are little different from the Soviet and Afghan stance as expressed previously."

There is no need to be surprised at this sort of negative reaction to the statement of the DRA Government from official Washington and its accomplices--it is no secret that the United States itself, in collusion with Beijing and reactionary circles in the region, assumed a posture from the very beginning of the Afghan revolution which was deeply hostile to the people of the DRA and unleashed an "undeclared war" against the young republic. It is precisely the United States that has created on the territory of Pakistan more than 70 support points and bases where large formations of bandits, destined to carry out armed provocations against the sovereign DRA, are put together, trained and equipped by using American dollars and Chinese yuan. It is precisely the United States that has used events in Afghanistan as a pretext for an unprecedented expansion of its own military presence in the Middle East, for aggression in the Persian Gulf region, and for the creation of a whole chain of new American military bases in various countries from Kenya to Egypt.

The peace-loving and constructive proposals of the DRA evidently do not fit in with the course of whipping up tension which is being pursued by Washington.

One should not be surprised either at the position of Pakistan, the leadership of which could find nothing better to say about the statement of the DRA Government than through the words of an official spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry to slanderously accuse Afghanistan of ..."propaganda manoeuvres." At the will of U.S. imperialist circles Pakistan has now become the main bridgehead where the forces of the Afghan counterrevolution are being formed and armed.

It is significant that whosoever has spoken out as a "critic" of the new Afghan initiatives, whether it be Washington, London or Islamabad, all enemies of the Afghan revolution act in exactly the same way--distorting or suppressing the essence of these initiatives. They allege that "Soviet troops must be withdrawn from Afghanistan" in order to "normalize the situation" and solve "the Afghan Question"; some people even try to make discussion of the Afghan proposals conditional upon the withdrawal of Soviet troops. This blatantly distorts the essence of the problem of a political settlement for the situation which has developed around Afghanistan. For such a settlement must reliably guarantee the complete cessation and nonresumption of any forms of outside interference directed against the government and people of Afghanistan. A start will be made on withdrawing Soviet forces from Afghanistan, in accordance with statements made by the Soviet Union, in conjunction with the complete cessation of all forms of outside interference directed against the government and people of Afghanistan. It is not clear that the West's groundless "demands" are yet another example of blatant interference by external forces in the affairs of a sovereign and independent count country, and whatever propaganda pyrotechnics are used to disguise them, they are dictated not at all by "concern" for Afghanistan, buy by a striving to bring Afghanistan back by any means under the yoke of imperialist serfdom and colonial bondage?

'Major New Step'

LD171302 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0645 GMT 17 May 80

["Constructive Proposals and Their Opponents"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 May--TASS observer Vasiliy Kharkov writes: The broad response given to the government statement of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] confirms the great international significance of this document, which points out the path toward a political settlement. No few foreign commentaries could be cited providing a positive assessment of the program of concrete action set forth in the statement, action which is aimed at eliminating the present tension in the region.

It is important to stress that the process of political settlement as proposed by the Democtatic Republic of Afghanistan Government is notable for its consistency and purposefulness. It includes a package of bilateral agreements with Pakistan and Iran; provision of appropriate international guarantees to consolidate the bilateral agreements; and a solution in the contest of political settlement of the question of the withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingent from Afghan territory. Naturally, from the very beginning of this process effective measures have to be taken to stop armed intervention or any other kind of outside interference in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan.

Anyone who considerers the new Kabul proposals without prejudice cannot help but to note that they are imbued with striving on the part of the DRA to build a new life in conditions of peace and cooperation with its neighbors and other countries. They also express the firm resolve of the Afghan people to defend their freedom and independence and protect their sovereign right to decide for themselves the sociopolitical system under which they want to live.

Some people, in an attempt to belittle the significance of the DRA Government's initiative, assert that it contains "no new constructive elements." The proposals by the DRA Government in fact represent a major new step in the quest for ways of eliminating tension in the region and overcoming disagreements by peaceful means and negotiation.

The statement emphasizes that the specific question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will depend on the resolution of the question of effective guarantees for bilateral agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan and Iran. In other words, the limited Soviet military contingent will be withdrawn if armed incursions and other forms of external interference in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan cease, if relations with Pakistan and Iran are normalized, and if all this is provided with the appropriate guarantees.

The negative reaction of Washington and its Atlantic allies to the new Kabul initiative shows that they do not want a political settlement. Their objective is to change the sociopolitical system in Afghanistan and to defeat the Afghan revolution. However, the development of events in Afghanistan makes it possible to state quite definitely that the imperialist circles will not succeed in achieving these goals.

## Imperialists Want to 'Wreck' Initiative

LD191051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 80 p 5

[Correspondent L. Mironov Dispatch: "Constructive Program"]

[Text] Kabul, 16 May--The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Government statement on normalizing relations with Iran and Pakistan and the situation in the region as a whole has evoked widespread reaction among the Afghan public. The document is the subject of commentaries in the Afghan press and radio and television and is being discussed at rallies and meetings in the country. The Afghan working people are unanimously expressing support for the DRA Government's positive new initiative aimed at a political settlement of the problems, the target being to bring about the complete and guaranteed ending of aggressive operations against Afghanistan, subversive actions and any other forms of external interference in the country's internal affairs and to eliminate the tension that has arisen in the region.

The DRA Government has already repeatedly demonstrated its intention of building a new life under conditions of peace while developing relations of friendship and cooperation with its neighbors, Muslim countries, and all other states. The specific new program of political measures aimed at improving the situation in the region and creating an atmosphere of mutual understanding and trust is yet another confirmation of the DRA's consistent and principled position.

The Afghan Government proceeds from the premise that Afghanistan has no contradictions with neighboring states that cannot be settled by peaceful means, on the basis of good will and statecraft, in the interests of the peoples. At the same time it is perfectly clear that the further escalation of unfriendly actions, mutual recriminations and especially attempts to interfere in internal affairs can only lead to serious consequences.

An important proposition is the issue of guarantees for future accords on normalization. In the DRA's opinion, the USSR and the United States should be among the guarantors. As for the guarantees from the United States, these must include a clearly expressed commitment not to carry out any subversive activity whatever against Afghanistan, including from third countries' territories.

In its statement the DRA Government stressed that the question of withdrawing the limited Soviet troop contingent from Afghanistan's territory must also be resolved within the context of a political settlement. The cessation and guaranteed nonresumption of the armed incursions and any other forms of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, the document stresses, would remove the reasons that forced the country to ask the USSR to introduce the aforementioned contingent.

However, the normalization of the situation surrounding Afghanistan is clearly not to the liking of imperialist circles, which are continuing their provocations against the young republic and playing an unscrupulous political game. They would like to wreck the important initiative. They are leaving no stone unturned in the process. Thus, citing the Tehran office of the so-called "Islamic Party of Afghanistan," AFP has circulated the false report that "Afghan rebels have captured the city of Herat."

As the competent Afghan circles have stated, this report is a groundless and malevolent lie circulated by elements hostile to the DRA with the aim of discrediting the revolutionary system in the DRA and encouraging the bandit formations being sent into the country from Pakistan. Life in Herat is normal.

Revolutionary Afghanistan hits against the hostile onslaughts of imperialist forces and their accomplices a consistent course of defending the motherland, struggling for peace and building a new life.

Despite the grim legacy of the past, Democratic Afghanistan has in a short time scored appreciable successes in implementing socioeconomic transformations in the interests of the working people's masses. The Afghan people have gained the opportunity to determine themselves their country's future paths of development.

The constructive new program put forward by the DRA Government, the Kabul NEW TIMES writes in an editorial, contains everything necessary for the elimination of tension in the region and the surmounting of disagreements by peaceful means, through negotiation.

COMMENTARIES DISCUSS USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN AFGHANISTAN

Serov: Anti-Soviet Falsehoods

LD172208 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Moscow, 17 May, TASS--TASS political news analyst Vladimir Serov writes: Among American commentators specialising in concocting all sorts of anti-Soviet falsehoods Mr Anderson is, perhaps, the leader. He is not in the least abashed by the fact that his fabrications have been refuted many times. And now, appearing in the program of the ABC television company about the situation in Afghanistan he staggered TV viewers with a "sensation" that Soviet troops that are staying temporarily in that country use chemical weapons. The commentator announced with a look of mystery that the information about this came from secret intelligence reports. He is unconcerned over the fact that such falsehoods are rehashed almost every day by the U.S. press, radio and television and that they burst like soap bubbles immediately.

To enable the reader to understand better such a zeal of this gentleman, it should be noted that he is one of the many American, and not only American, journalists who are closely connected with the CIA and are on its payroll for they fulfil assignments of that espionage agency. And since the chiefs demand ever more anti-Soviet concoctions, he has to take up all sort of rubbish.

We would like to give a piece of advice to Mr Anderson. If he really wishes to find chemical weapons in Afghanistan, he should turn to the Afghan authorities. They will show him chemical weapons with the hallmark "made in the USA", weapons with which the United States supplies units of thugs that are sent into Afghanistan to stage subversive operations against the lawful government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. But Mr Anderson will not take our advice, we are afraid. This advice will not be to the liking of his superiors. He is paid money to spread absurd lies which serve as a smoke-screen for the development by the United States of the program of production of armaments, including chemical weapons.

Ardamatskiy: 'Gigantic Provocation'

LD151125 Copenhagen AKTUELT in Danish 30 Apr 80 p 7

[Dmitriy Ardamatskiy article: "First Burning, Then Dribbling, Then Vomiting"]

[Text] A few weeks ago the Americans began to claim that the Soviet forces in Afghanistan had used chemical weapons against what are so prettily called "Islamic rebels" and even against the civilian population. The claims originated in the immediate circle around President Carter and his security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski. However, a consistent feature of these claims was that no one could present documentary evidence for them.

The matter would only have been yet another in the series of American propaganda lies which are now and then planted in the Western press through the big news agencies, which the American intelligence bureaus are not without influence over. It would have been, if, at the same time, reports had not begun to come in that the rebel groups, which the Americans themselves are helping to train and which are sent into Afghanistan from neighboring countries on murderous expeditions, had begun to use poisonous chemical substances produced...in the United States! Washington made denials and the American propaganda transmitter stated that the United States was certainly not supplying the rebels with chemical weapons.

The people these weapons were being used against had another opinion entirely. Cold facts proved that the United States, by claiming that the Soviet troops were using chemical weapons, only wanted to cover up its own use of such weapons.

The latest pieces of evidence of American complicity in war crimes against the Afghan people came to light after the defeat of rebel groups in Herat Province 25 March 1980. Some 25 of these rebels, who had all been sent into the country from outside and who included foreign military personnel, were killed. Among the weapons captured were chemical grenades manufactured in the United States!

The grenades were shown to the people of the world at a press conference in Kabul, where those present were shown containers, resembling food cans, with the legend "manufactured at the state laboratories in Salisbury, Pennsylvania, USA 1978."

Here an expert explained how the "CS" poison in the grenades worked. Dogs and cats die of convulsions, but the poison is intended for people. First there is a burning sensation in the eyes, strong salivation and later vomiting. The back bone begins to hurt. In greater concentration the poison is invariably fatal, but on every occasion those affected become totally helpless and lose consciousness. Two of those captured, Mahdi Bagram and Gulam Sahi, explained that it was intended that the poison grenades were to explode where civilians were gathered. When asked to what extent they were acquainted with the properties of the chemical weapon, the prisoners replied: "Yes, it was explained to us how we should use them."

After these disclosures Carter sounded as if it was the first time he had heard of American complicity in intervention in Afghanistan. "I do not believe," said Carter innocently, "that there are any weapons at all in Afghanistan. As far as I remember, a few grenades were found, but they were some of those we sold to Iran in the past, and that was several years ago." Fantastic, that a man in that position can produce such clumsy evasions. What, in that case, did government representatives mean when one after another they announced that the United States was determined to give every possible form of support and help to the counterrevolutionary gangs operating against Afghanistan from Pakistani territory? How should one interpret American announcements that the United States has provided them with the necessary equipement? What was the aim of the numerous eminent government officials, including Brzezinski's assistant and the deputy secretary of state, who have paid visits to the rebels' camps and held meetings with the Afghan rebel leaders?

The Afghan Government has announced that it is prepared to allow an unbiased international group to examine the chemical weapons that have been found and to investigate the circumstances surrounding the use of these weapons. This would help to get the American President's poor memory working again.

But it is not only a question of memory, but of the fact that the United States is supplying the rebels in Afghanistan with chemical weapons, at the same time as it wants the world to believe that it is the Russians who are using nerve gas. All this amounts to a gigantic provication, which will deal the death blow to detente and bring the world to the verge of a nuclear war. [sentence as published]

PRAVDA CORRESPONDENT EXAMINES AFGHAN ARMY MOUNTAIN CAMPAIGN

LD182338 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] And now here's (Timur Gaydur), correspondent for the leading Soviet daily, PRAVDA, reporting on Afghanistan: A battalion of the Afghan Army was cautiously moving through the mountains, across deep ravines covered with snow. Reconnaissance units preceded it and protection on the march kept constant vigil. [as heard] Warfare in the mountains was not easy. A handful of well-armed terrorists and they had enough machineguns and grenade launcers supplied from China and the United States--could stop the movement of much bigger forces that had occupied a well chosen position. Narrow mountain paths made maneuvering and the use of sophisticated military equipment more difficult and when firing began it was very hard to guess from where the bullets were coming because of the mountain echoes. And still the battalion moved on practically without losses and drove the enemy out of one mountain pass one after another.

What helped the soldiers was their good knowledge of the mountains and the (?keen) hatred for the terrorists displayed by the local farmers. The mountaineers at the risk of their own and their relatives' lives warned the battalion about ambushes and indicated roundabout paths.

I happened to meet two such volunteers. They came late at night, conferred with the commander for a long time and then disappeared in the surrounding darkness. The commander, Captain (Mohammad Sharif), said they were from the region of (Eobran Ho) which had several villages. The local farmers have armed themselves to (?fight) and prevent the terrorists from occupying their area but they need help.

That night the battalion rested in some odd buildings that looked like a castle and stood alone on a hilltop. The soldiers sat in an octagonal room with its windows curtained with soldiers' blankets. They slowly drank tea and discussed military matters.

Before visiting the battalion I was received in Kabul by the chief of the People's Armed Forces Political Department, Gol Aqa. I was particularly pleased to hear how highly the leaders of the Afghan People's Armed Forces assess the Soviet officers' aid in increasing the defense capacity of their army, which was fighting the terrorists sent from across the border. Gol Aqa spoke of the truly fraternal ties between the Afghan soldiers and the units of the limited contingent of Soviet troops that had come to the country at the request of the Afghan Government.

Early in the morning the battalion was preparing to move on. It was a rare moment of calm, which was to end any minute with a roar of motors and the words of command. Captain (Sharif) ordered the dispatch of the reconnaissance units. One unit was to move on the left of the road, another on the right. Field engineers were to go in between.

IZGARSHEV DETAILS SOVIET TROOPS' AID TO AFGHAN POPULATION

LD151413 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 May 80 p 3

[Special correspondent Col V. Izgarshev Kabul dispatch: "In the Performance of Internationalist Duty"]

[Text] The unit in which Lt Col V. Sadovoy is serving is not far from an Afghan village. The soldiers have seen how hard it must be for the peasants to till their plots of land, which sheltered on the hillsides. There were so many stones on the allotments. The peasants could not clear them by spring. With their commander's approval, Sgt First Class Ye. Yeremenkov, Sgt A. Tkach, Pvts Kh. Dzhafarov, A. Motrus, Ensign G. Shimukhametov and other soldiers decided to help the peasants. They cleared away all the stones from the allotments of (Zar Khan, Kuchkar, Nurulla, Ayatulla and Makhmat Islom), dug the land and cleared the irrigation ditches....

At first the peasants greeted the Soviet forces' arrival guardedly. Bandits had warned them that, where an unbeliever sets foot, nothing will ever grow and that the Russians would demand a lot of money, rice and women for their help. But truly is it said: Lies have short legs. Surely these smiling young men do not look like marauders? Just look: any sort of work just melts away in their hands. Surely you cannot deceive a child? How the children cling to the Soviet soldiers.

"These fellows have kind hearts and capable hands. We have all realized now that you are our best friends," a peasant called (Nurulla) said, addressing the Soviet soldiers, and all his fellow-countrymen supported his words. "Those who spoke nonsense about you are our enemies. We know now that the Soviet soldier is a liberator and that he is the Afghan's brother."

Bandits destroyed the school in (Chaugan) village. Snr Lt A. Zaytsev and a group of Soviet soldiers went and offered their help to headmaster (Kurban Nazru). Our soldier-craftsmen made 100 desks and 130 benches, from their own materials, by the way. The Afghan toiler well appreciates what this means in the treeless region hereabouts, where firewood is sold by weight. And then our soldiers rebuilt the ruined school building and equipped four classrooms. The elders shook their heads and exclaimed:

"What good people the communists are turning out to be. What nonsense we were told by various 'wellwishers' with daggers and machineguns under their cloaks...."

(Nushin), 5-year old daughter of (Latifi Makhmada Arifa), became seriously ill. What was to be done? The doctor lives about 10 km away. And it would cost so much for treatment and consultation that you would despair. Nearby is a Soviet military unit. Field doctor Sgt.A. Sabirov helped young (Nushin). The whole settlement knows about it.

Numerous similar stories are spreading throughout the country by word of mouth. In one place Soviet soldiers planted fruit trees. In another they repaired a school building. At an auto-repair enterprise soldiers Sh. Saidov, F. Sharipov and Kh. Khabibulayev have been repairing Afghan trucks, without payment, of course. Out of duty, as a friend.

Afghan comrades are saying: "Our people's enemies, who are sending armed bandit formations from abroad, think that they can frighten the population, stir up their mistrust and hostility toward the Soviet forces, and organize anti-Soviet actions based on inflaming nationalist and religious feelings. But people do not believe the bandits; people realize that the Soviet soldiers are their friends. True, selfless friends with open hearts."

MIRONOV ON SOVIET-AFGHAN NATURAL GAS COOPERATION

LD181838 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] News analyst Leonid Mironov examines Soviet-Afghan cooperation in gas extraction. Here is what he writes: For over 10 years now natural gas has been successfully extracted from the Khwaja Gogerdak deposits. The gas is used at plants near Mazar-e Sharif as the initial raw material for manufacturing nitrogen chemicals, so essential for agriculture.

Natural gas is used for the production of electricity which is supplied to Mazar-e Sharif and Balk. Gas is also shipped to the Soviet Union. A whole complex of installations for extracting and transporting gas, as well as consumer enterprises, were built with Soviet economic and technical assistance. And now, through the joint efforts of Afghan and Soviet specialists, a new victory has been scored, yet another deposit, the Jarqodoq is yielding gas. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Afghanistan's minister for mining and industry, Mr Danesh, pointed out that the new industrial complex built with Soviet technical assistance will play a key role in industrializing the country.

Annually an estimated 2 billion cubic meters of gas will be extracted and some 15,000 tons of gas concentrates produced. Already during the construction of the Jarqodoq complex more than 1,000 skilled Afghan specialists were trained. The minister noted the new enterprise's efficiency. The investments involved to build it will be recovered in less than 18 months. The complex, built jointly by Soviet and Afghan specialists, Mr Danesh observed, is a vivid symbol of fraternal relations between the peoples of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union--relations whose foundations were laid by the great Lenin. The participants of a meeting, with great inspiration, adopted a message to the Soviet Communist Party's General Secretary, President Leonid Brezhnev, and to the General Secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal. The message stresses that the project, implemented through the joint efforts of the specialists and workers of both countries, will serve to further strengthen the friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The project will be a new contribution of both peoples to the fight for peace and against imperialism. With the commissioning of the Jarqodoq gas fields, the output of natural gas in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is expected to double, the increase in production will create new opportunities for an increasing usage of natural gas inside the country, in particular for producing nitrogen chemicals to increase the power energy facilities and for the population's everyday needs. The Afghan people building a new life are still confronted with quite a number of complicated problems both economic and political, said the secretary of the Jowzjan Provincial Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (Sarid Nazim). Our people want to enjoy their rights and have no desire to put up with backwardness. The people have risen to build a life and their enemies will not be able to break this will.

PAKISTAN POSITION ON AFGHAN ISSUE HIT

LD172132 Moscow TASS in English 1851 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, May 17, TASS--A regular session of the Islamic Conference opened here today. It is attended by foreign ministers of 40 Asian and African countries.

It should be noted, however, that the Government of Afghanistan was barred from the participation in the session of the Islamic Conference under invented pretexts.

Pakistan's President Ziaul Haq spoke at the opening of the session. Trying to distract the attention of the public of Islamic states from the threat of armed interference of the United States in Iran and clearly seeking to concentrate the session on the so-called "Afghan problem," he repeated again a false version of the events in Afghanistan.

In this connection local observers note that the reactionary circles try at the session of the Islamic Conference to avoid discussing main problems, such as armed interference of the United States in Iran that constitutes a threat to Islamic states, above all to the Iranian state.

Meanwhile, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan came out a few days ago with an important initiative declaring its striving for a political settlement to ensure complete and guaranteed end of the aggressive actions against Afghanistan, of subversive operations and any other forms of outside interference in its internal affairs.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan suggested, specifically, to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to Pakistan the holding of bilateral talks to work out such agreements that would contain the generally recognized provisions related to mutual respect of sovereignty, of the readiness to develop relations on the basis of the principles of goodneighbourliness and noninterference in internal affairs, and would also include concrete pledges to keep from military activity or any other hostile activity from one's territory against each other. But the discussion of the questions directly connected with the relations of Islamic states, Pakistan and Iran with Afghanistan, is hampered, above all, by the stand of the imperialist circles and the reactionary forces that oppose any initiatives which are aimed at normalising Afghan-Iranian and Afghan-Pakistani relations and at improving the political climate in southwest Asia as a whole.

It should also be noted that the Ziaul Haq regime which came to power as a result of destroying democratic freedoms in the country and that is actually a military dictatorship is now granting its territory for the staging of provocative actions and military interference in the affirs of an independent sovereign state, Afghanistan. It acts in these matters jointly with the United States and China and with a number of other reactionary regimes. Ziaul Haq avoided giving an answer to Afghanistan's proposals and tried to replace them with the discussion of so-called "Afghanistan's problem" that is being imposed on Islamic states which cannot be assessed in any other way than as outright interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Thus the United States, China, Pakistan and some other reactionary regimes prefer the situation of tension and instability in the area to the policy of goodneighbourliness with Afghanistan and other countries.

Before the opening of the Islamabad session, Ziaul Haq gave an interview to prominent American commentator W. Cronkite. W. Cronkite noted in this connection that the Pakistani president would not object to the United States building routes, air fields and other projects on the Afghan border. This statement apparently, cannot be assessed in any other way than as a direct invitation of the United States to step up the subversive activity against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan from the Pakistan territory.

KITSENKO COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN, PRC LINKS

LD182052 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 18 May 80

[Commentary by news analyst Oleg Kitsenko]

[Text] Judging by reports in the Indian press the results of a recent visit to Beijing by President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan have caused concern among all who are interested in a restoration of stability in South Asia. There has been particular alarm over reports that the Chinese leaders promised the Pakistani president to permit nuclear tests on Chinese territory. The reports indicate that such tests will be held under the observation of Chinese and Pakistani scientists. It is also noted that military experts agreed to send Pakistani Air Force officers to China to train Chinese military specialists to service the American military equipment recently delivered to China from the United States.

As a matter of fact (?such) reports make one take a fresh look at the high level Chinese-Pakistani contacts. Both Beijing and Islamabad are directly or indirectly involved in subversion and interference in the internal affairs of practically all neighboring countries. Incidentally, at the recent talks in Beijing China and Pakistan agreed to continue training on Pakistani territory, with the help of Chinese advisers and instructors, units of bandits to be sent into Afghanistan. To this one may add that, according to reports in the magazine BLITZ in India, American special services made use of Pakistani territory to prepare the commando operation against Iran. It is also known that armed provocations were carried out more recently on the border with India from a Pakistani military base near the City of Punch. It is likewise common knolwedge now that the Pakistani authorities encourage in all possible ways intensive Chinese expansion in the occupied area of Kashmir of strategic military communication lines and the creation of strategic military stockpiles.

Observers note that against this background there is absolutely no meaning to statements by the Pakistani administration that it wants to have friendly relations with the neighboring countries, including India and Afghanistan. One can only agree with the reasonable remarks made by the Indian Prime Minister to the (?Madras) newspaper (MACAL KURAL). Mrs Indira Gandhi doubted the sincerity of Pakistan in connection with the fact that at all Islamic conferences it has been trying to raise the so-called Kashmir question. Besides that, as the Indian prime minister noted, maps appear in some Pakistani textbooks and books where Kashmir and the former principality of Junagadh in the state of Gujarat are marked as Pakistani territory. Commenting on these facts, observers in South Asia point out that the current actions of Pakistan run basically counter to the spirit and letter of the similar agreement of 1972, to all the positive tendencies that appeared on the subcontinent in the seventies.

The accent on military aspects of cooperation between China and Pakistan, the artificial buildup in tensions in South Asia only meet the interests of hegemonistic expansionist quarters.

Neighbor Relations Undermined

LD161503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 80 p 5

[Oleg Kitsenko "Commentator's Column": 'Under Beijing's Thumb"]

[Text] More and more information is appearing in the press about Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's recent official visit to Beijing. And as the results of the visit become clear, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the nature of the questions discussed and the agreements reached in the Chinese capital by no means promote a lessening of tension in southwest Asia.

The main theme at the talks, as the world press notes, was the question of deliveries of Chinese weapons and military hardware, including tanks and aircraft, to Islamabad for the buildup of provocative actions against Democratic Afghanistan. That is Beijing's role within the framework of the "division of labor" concerning which an agreement was reached, by all appearances, during the visit of Pentagon chief H. Brown to China last January. It appears from Ziaul Haq's statements that Beijing is fulfilling its "commitments." The sides also reached agreement that they will continue to train bandit formations on Pakistani territory, with the help of Chinese instructors, for sending into Afghanistan.

However, that is not the end of it. Pakistan has clearly been assigned a notable place in the Chinese and U.S. plans, which accord with their "common interests." It is known that subversive actions are being organized from Pakistani territory not only against Afghanistan, but against other neighboring states too. As the Indian magazine BLITZ wrote the other day, Pakistani bases were used to prepare the dangerous provocation by the American military in Iran. Strongpoints are also being created in Pakistan for provocative sorties against India. One of these is a major sabotage center near the City of Punch, which has been created with the help of Chinese advisors. Military strategic communications are being hurriedly expanded in the occupied territory of Kashmir, again with China's help.

Serious concern is also being aroused among Pakistan's neighbors by reports from Delhi that during Ziaul Haq's visit the Beijing leaders promised the guest that they would permit Pakistani nuclear tests on Chinese territory.

Beijing is trying to foist new commitments on Pakistan within the framework of Chinese-Pakistani military-political cooperation and to turn that country into an instrument for implementing its own hegemonist policy in the region. Beijing strategists are implementing this policy on an anti-Soviet basis. It is no accident that now, during the Chinese-Pakistani talks, Deng Xiaoping and Hua Guofeng launched appeals for a further exacerbation of relations with the USSR.

It is not hard to see that the Chinese hegemonists' designs run counter to Pakistan's national interests and are aimed at undermining that country's relations with its neighbors.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SESSION OPENS IN ISLAMABAD

LD171925 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, May 17, TASS--A regular session of the Islamic Conference Organization opened here today. Taking part in the session are foreign ministers of 40 Asian and African countries. There are 101 items on the session's agenda. They include the situation in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, the aggressive actions of the United States against Iran, the presence of U.S. military bases and troops in territories of Moslem states, restoration of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, Israeli occupation of Jerusalem, etc.

Speaking at the opening of the session, Pakistan's President Ziaul Haq, trying to distract the attention of the public of Islamic states from the threat of the United States' armed interference in Iran and clearly seeking to ensure that the session concentrates on the co-called "Afghan problem" repeated again a false version of the events in Afghanistan.

In this connection, local observers note that the reactionary circles [word indistinct] the session of the Islamic Conference to avoid discussing the main problems, such as the United States' armed interference in Iran that constitutes a threat to Islamic states, above all to the Iranian state.

KOSYGIN, OTHERS GREET VERDET ON ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW

LD191004 Moscow TASS in English 0952 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--Ilie Verdet, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, arrived here today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport Ilie Verdet was welcomed by Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials.

CPSU'S SUSLOV RECEIVES POLAND'S SZYDLAK

LD151629 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Today Comrade Suslov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee received Szydlak, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Central Council of Polish Trade Unions, and chairman of the Board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society, who is in the Soviet Union, and had a warm, friendly conversation with him.

BAYBAKOV MEETS WITH HUNGARY'S HUSZAR

LD160314 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1800 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Nikolay Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR's Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, has received Istvan Huszar, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the National Planning Office.

At the talks they discussed issues connected with completion of work relating to the harmonization of the Soviet and Hungarian 5-year plans for 1981-1985. Matyas Szuros, Hungarian ambassador in Moscow also took part in the discussions.

PRAVDA CITES TITO RECORD, PRESIDIUM ON USSR TIES

LD161141 [Editorial report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 1980 carries on page 4 a 700-word 8 May Belgrade report by PRAVDA correspondent V. Zhuravskiy on President Tito's burial. The report, entitled "Yugoslavia's Grief," contains the following passage:

"These past few days I have repeatedly heard Yugoslav comrades express warm words about the friendship and fraternity of our peoples and their common historical destiny. A participant in the Great October Socialist Revolution and a Red Guard in the Civil War, Josip Broz Tito devoted a great deal of effort to strengthening fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the CPSU and LCY, the USSR and Yugoslavia. Recently the Yugoslav Presidium noted the favorable development of Yugoslavia's relations with the Soviet Union. It pointed out that the principles contained in jointly adopted documents are a sound basis for the further development of friendly cooperation between the two countries."

REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV-GISCARD MEETING IN WARSAW

Brezhnev Departure from Moscow

LD181650 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] We have just received this TASS report:

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, left Moscow for Warsaw today.

At the airport they were seen off by Comrade Andropov, Grishin, Kirilenko, Kosygin, Pelshe, Suslov, Tikhonov, Chernenko, Gorbachev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kapitanov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Rusakov and other comrades, as well as Olszewski, ambassador of the Polish People's Republic in the USSR.

Brezhnev Arrival in Warsaw

LD181836 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 18 May 80

[Excerpt] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Warsaw from Moscow on 18 May.

At the airport of the Polish capital Comrades Brezhnev and Gromyko were welcomed by Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee; Wojtaszek, candidate member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the Polish People's Republic; Waszczuk, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee; and other officials.

Among the welcoming party was Aristov, USSR ambassador to Poland. Aleksandrov and Blatov, assistants to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have also arrived in Warsaw.

Giscard Arrival in Warsaw

LD181714 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Warsaw, May 18, TASS--President V. Giscard d'Estaing of France and French Foreign Minister J. Francois-Poncet have arrived in the Polish Capital today at the invitation of first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party E. Gierek.

In the airport decked with the national flags of France and Poland they were welcomed by First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party E. Gierek, alternate member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, Foreign Minister of Poland E. Wojtaszek, secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party E. Waszczuk and French Ambassador to Poland J. Duput.

Start of Talks

LD190950 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Warsaw:

Talks between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Valery Giscard d'Estaing, president of the Republic of France, began at 1000 in the Polish capital, attended by Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

Gierek delivered a welcoming address at the start of the meeting.

Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Foreign Minister, and Francois-Poncet, the French foreign minister, are taking part in the talks.

GROMYKO IN VIENNA FOR TREATY ANNIVERSARY, MEETS LEADERS

Speeches by Austrian Officials

LD160420 Moscow Tass in English 0143 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Vienna, May 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Maslov reports:

A celebration meeting was held today in the Hofburg Palace in Vienna to mark the 25th anniversary of the treaty on the restoration of independent and democratic Austria. The celebrations were attended by members of the Federal Government, representatives of political parties and parliamentarians, the U.N. secretary general, Kurt Waldheim, and numerous foreign guests.

The federal chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, stressed in his address that the State Treaty started a new stage in the life of independent and neutral Austria.

In his speech, the federal president, Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, said that the 25th anniversary of the State Treaty is a big holiday for all the Austrian people, as the treaty brought stable peace, sovereignty and independence to the country.

The law on Austria's constant neutrality, adopted later, stressed the president, meets the interests of both European and other states. The policy of neutrality also gave Austria an opportunity to become the venue of international meetings. The Austrian capital plays host to international organizations and U.N. specialized branches. Austria regards it as its task and duty to work for the deepening of detente which slowed down in the recent months.

Rudolf Kirchschlaeger expressed gratitude to the four great powers--the USSR, the USA, Great Britain and France for their far-sighted policy and the trust in Austria during the signing of the State Treaty. We experience deep satisfaction at the realization that our relations with the great powers and our neighbours develop in the spirit of friendship and without problems. The president concluded by calling on all nations to strengthen world peace, achieve new successes in detente which makes one of the vital interests of the Austrian Republic.

Gromyko Speech at Ceremony

AU161231 Vienna Domestic Television in German 1045 GMT 16 May 80

[Speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko at ceremony to commemorate 25th anniversary of Austrian State Treaty at Vienna's Belvedere Palace on 16 May--live in Russian with consecutive German translation]

[Text] Esteemed Mr Federal President, Esteemed Mr Chancellor, Esteemed Mr Secretary General of the United Nations Organization, esteemed ministers, esteemed ladies and gentlemen: I am glad to have the opportunity to visit Vienna again and to take part in today's solemn act--the unveiling of the memorial plaque in the Belvedere Palace, where 25 years ago the Austrian State Treaty was signed.

In observing this jubilee we cannot fail to recall another memorable date--the recent 35th anniversary of the liberation of the peoples of Europe, including the Austrian peoples, from German fascism In the memorable spring of 1945 Austria, with the other states of the continent, entered a period of peaceful development and cooperation, and today, with understandable gratification, it is reviewing the results of the road it has traveled. The conclusion of the State Treaty and the proclamation of permanent neutrality have been a firm and dependable base upon which the Austrian peoples can, a quarter of a century later, look confidently to the future.

This event evoked a broad international echo. It served as one of the sources of the trend to detente, which paved its way in the following years and which has led to the working out of the firm principles of peaceful coexistence on the continent. In this sense there is a certain historical tie-in between what happened in May 1955 in Vienna and what happened in August 1975 in Helsinki, where the Final Act of the all-European conference was adopted. These two events are marked by the spirit of mutual understanding, a striving to ensure reliably the peaceful coexistence of the peoples and states in spite of all that still continues to separate them.

In our days, when the policy of detente is, one can say, being subjected to the test of durability, it seems appropriate to remind nations of their collective responsibility for the destiny of international peace. As regards the Soviet Union, it was and remains a consistent advocate of the undeviating continuation of the policy of detente in international relations, of the complementing of political detente by effective measures in the sphere of military detente. With all countries of the socialist community we are fully determined to follow this course. This was again convincingly underscored in the declaration of the Warsaw Pact member states that has just been adopted, as well as in the separate document--the declaration.

One would like to note that adherence to detente invariably characterized the policy of neutral Austria during the years following the signing of the State Treaty. This is how we appraise Austria's policy. This also contributed to the growth of Austria's prestige, as well as the consolidation of its position, as is shown by the increasing role of your capital, Vienna, as a venue for international meetings, important conferences and congresses.

The Soviet Union, which has made a considerable contribution to the liberation and reestablishment of independent Austria, has, on the whole, good relations with Austria today. Inasfar as one speaks of the Soviet Union, we are prepared to enrich and develop these relations in the future. This corresponds to the interests of both the Soviet and the Austrian peoples, and to the interests of peace--this is our firm conviction.

The Soviet side is firmly in favor of these relations developing in the future along an ascending order. As far as we understand, the Austrian Government is of the same opinion. I would say that the statement just made by the chancellor confirms this. This can be to nobody's disadvantage--and this also applies to the good relations existing between Austria and the Soviet Union. Permit me on behalf of the Soviet leadership, and of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, personally, to convey to you, Mr Federal President, to you, Mr Federal Chancellor, and to the friendly Austrian people sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the State Treaty; and to wish you new successes in strengthening independent, neutral and peace-loving Austria. [applause]

[Moscow TASS in English at 1554 GMT on 16 May reports Gromyko's speech and adds the following: On the same day the president of the Austrian Republic R. Kirchschlaeger gave a dinner at Hoffburg. It was attended by the foreign ministers of the USSR, the USA, Britain and France, as well as official guests from other states who have arrived in Vienna to attend celebrations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty. The dinner took place in a friendly atmosphere.]

Muskie, Gromyko Talks

LD161952 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 16 May 80

["Andrey Gromyko Meets with Edmund Muskie"--TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, May 16, TASS--In keeping with the previously reached agreement, a meeting was held here today between member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and the U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie who are in Vienna in connection with the 25th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty with Austria.

During their talk, a frank exchange of opinions was held, bearing on the overall international situation, a number of topical issues including those having to do with the situation in different parts of the world, as well as on the state of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States of America. In this context, Andrey Gromyko and Edmund Muskie presented their respective assessment and views on ways of reducing international tensions and overcoming the complications in the Soviet-U.S. relations.

Both sides consider that the exchange of opinions was necessary. Interest was expressed in continuing, at different levels, the discussion of questions of mutual interest to the Soviet Union and the United States, with account for the Soviet-American relations' importance for the interests of the peoples of both countries and the cause of peace.

## Gromyko Comment

AU162059 Vienna Domestic Television Service in German 1950 GMT 16 May 80

[Hans Georg Heinke report on statement by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko after his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie in Vienna on 16 May]

[Text] It was by accident that Gromyko made a statement. Gromyko was on his way to his car and two Soviet colleagues asked for a short comment on the talks. I was also present and asked the interpreter to translate it and for about 1 minute Gromyko told us something about the talks. He said: We have talked about certain aspects and topical problems of world policy. In my opinion this meeting was very necessary and I would also like to express the hope that these talks were useful.

Gromyko said: We have not discussed certain agreements or projects but only spoke about our mutual relations. And he admitted that on various problems, our positions, that is the Soviet Union, and the United States are different. Then in conclusion he said something quite interesting: We further proceed on the road of detente and it will be quite necessary for us to find joint ways between the two states, the United States and the Soviet Union, to continue this detente. Nobody can move us from this position. One could interpret this to mean from the road of detente or, it could be seen to mean from our, the Soviet road of detente.

## Meeting With Waldheim

LD162202 Moscow TASS in English 2117 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Vienna, May 16 TASS--A meeting was held here today between member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. During the meeting held in a businesslike atmosphere, they exchanged opinions on issues having to do with the activity of the United Nations Organization in discharging its primary responsibility--the maintenance of international peace and security as well as some topical issues of international relations. It was stressed that in the present complicated international situation, the responsibility of the United Nations increases in the struggle for peace, and prevention of the threat of war, in consolidating the international detente. The struggle for detente and consequently for peace, Andrey Gromyko pointed out, is a matter of vital concern for all states and peoples of the world. Only by increasing its contribution to this struggle, the United Nations can justify the hopes which the peoples associate with it, to fulfil the task put before it after the great victory over fascism, 35 years ago--to save the coming generation, future generations from the scourge of war.

Andrey Gromyko stressed the Soviet Union's consistent support for the efforts of the United Nations Organization and its secretary general to strengthen international security and cooperation between states in keeping with relevant provisions of the U.N. Charter.

## Meeting With Genscher

LD162020 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Vienna, May 16, TASS--On May 16, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, now in Vienna in connection with the 25th anniversary of the State Treaty with Austria, had a meeting with the FRG's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. During the meeting, they discussed issues of bilateral relations as well as topical international problems of mutual interest. The meeting was held in a businesslike, frank atmosphere.

## Talks With Italian Foreign Minister

LD170913 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0851 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Vienna, 17 May, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, had a meeting in Vienna with Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo at the latter's request.

During the conversation a useful exchange of opinions took place on several questions of Soviet-Italian relations and also on a number of current international problems, including problems concerning Europe which are of interest to the Soviet Union and Italy. Confirmation was given of the intention of the sides to continue to pursue the development of Soviet-Italian cooperation in various spheres, including the political sphere, in the interests of detente and strengthening peace.

## 'Businesslike, Frank' Talks With Carrington

LD170956 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0936 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Vienna, 17 May, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, today in Vienna met with Lord Carrington, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs of Great Britain.

During the conversation, which passed in a businesslike and frank atmosphere, topical international problems and questions of bilateral relations were discussed. Concern was expressed over the existing tension in the world and the readiness of the sides was confirmed to maintain and develop the dialogue between East and West in the interests of the containment of the arms race and of solving conflict situations in the world through negotiations. Andrey Gromyko and Lord Carrington confirmed the intention of both states to develop relations on the basis of full equality, noninterference in internal affairs, respect of national sovereignty and the sides' mutual interests. Agreement was made to continue bilateral contacts.

## Gromyko, Kreisky Conversation

LD171056 Moscow TASS in English 1038 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Vienna, May 17, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, today had a meeting in Vienna with Federal Chancellor of the Austrian Republic Bruno Kreisky.

In the course of the talk, the sides expressed satisfaction with the state of relations between the Soviet Union and Austria and declared for their consistent expansion to the mutual benefit of the peoples of both countries.

When topical problems of the present-day international situation were discussed, the two sides reaffirmed the devotion of the Soviet Union and Austria to the policy of relaxation of international tension, consolidation of cooperation between states in the interests of consideration of peace and security of the peoples.

The meeting was friendly, and it was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Meeting With Austrian CP Officials

LD171058 Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Vienna, May 17, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, today met with Franz Muhri, chairman of the Communist Party of Austria. Andrey Gromyko and Franz Muhri had a talk that passed in a cordial and friendly atmosphere characteristic of the relations between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Austria. Taking part in the meeting were Mikhail Yefremov, ambassador of the Soviet Union in Austria, and Hans Steiner, head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria.

Departure for Moscow

LD171142 Moscow TASS in English 1131 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Vienna, 17 May, TASS--Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, who stayed in Vienna in connection with the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty with Austria, left for home today.

At Schwechet Airport Andrey Gromyko was seen off by Foreign Minister of Austria Willibald Pahr, and also the USSR's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in the Austrian Republic Mikhail Yefremov.

Return From Vienna

LD171424 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1415 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Moscow, 17 May, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, who has been in Vienna for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty with Austria, returned home today.

At the airport he was met by Andrey Kirilenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

EEC ANTI-IRAN SANCTIONS, OLYMPIC BOYCOTT LINKED

LD181754 Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Rome, May 18, TASS--It is under the pressure of the United States that the foreign ministers of the member countries of the European Economic Community have today passed a decision on the imposition of economic sanctions against Iran as of May 22. But in spite of all efforts, which were made by American diplomacy, these sanctions will not be all-embracing. They will not apply to the contracts concluded by the countries of the "Nine" with Iran prior to November 4, last year, i.e., the seizure of the American hostages in Tehran. Washington has failed to win the endorsement by the Common Market member countries of the decisions taken by them on April 22 on ending practically all trade with Iran starting from May 17. Nevertheless, even the suspension of the contracts concluded by Iran after November 4 last year, on which an agreement has been reached today between the EEC ministers, also constitutes crude blackmail against Iran. The nine ministers, who refused to heed the voice of reason and took the lead from the USA, thus dealt a tangible blow above all to the economic interests of their own countries. As is seen from repeated warnings by the Iranian side, such repressive sanctions will inevitably entail Tehran's retaliatory measures.

And this, considering Europe's great dependence on Iranian oil imports will undoubtedly result in a deterioration of the already difficult economic situation of the Common Market countries and weaken the positions of the "Nine" in their competition with the United States. It must be also borne in mind that the anti-Iranian sanctions will deal a by far more painful blow to the interests of the "Nine" than of the USA, which depends on Iranian oil interests to a lesser extent.

One cannot held comparing in this connection the stand of some Western leaders towards the Olympic games of 1980, which was also taken under the direct pressure of the United States. As is known, such countries as the FRG have declared under Washington's pressure a "boycott" of the 22nd Summer Olympic Games in Moscow, in the latter case it was a matter of a purely political decision prejudicing the interests of sport, above all the interests of athletes of their own countries, now the ministers have in economic terms headed in a goal into their own net.

By following into the footsteps of Washington's expansionist policy and giving up the protection of their vital national interests, the leaders of some Common Market members countries are actually turning into "hostages" of the dangerous course of the USA directed at building up tensions.

PRAVDA U.S. 'ARM-TWISTING' CAUSING 'STORMY' NATO SESSION

LD151537 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 80 p 5

[Sergey Vishnevskiy "Commentator's Column": "Sinister Plans"]

[Text] It is reasonable to call the NATO meeting now underway in Brussels an arm-twisting session. Its scenario was elaborated long ago on the banks of the Potomac. At Washington's insistence the regular session of the Military Planning Committee has been extended into a special session of the NATO Council in which foreign and defense ministers will take part. The U.S. strategists thus want to impart "fundamental political" significance, as Western observers put it, to the meeting.

FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt's recent pronouncement on "the collective nature of the alliance of equal partners" can only be interpreted ironically. What equality exists there? To describe the atmosphere reigning in NATO even reactionary commentators use the following expressions: "The United States is digging its spurs into the allies" and using "levers of pressure" against them. Long before the session, reports filtered into the foreign press about a long list of demands which Washington was imposing on its junior partners.

These demands have been reduced to the "division of labor" concept elaborated in the depths of the Pentagon. Its essense consists in tying the West European allies more firmly to Washington's aggressive policy and involving them in adventurist undertakings in regions remote from the Old World.

The new "division of labor" in NATO would look highly one-sided. The Washington strategists would have a completely free hand to unleash armed operations in the Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean and other regions.

The United States is demanding that its allies provide their countries' territories for U.S. airlifts and earmark facilities for flying in interventionists.

Moreover, the West Europeans must fill the so-called "gap in NATO's defense" which could arise as a result of the "world gendarme's unrestrained adventurism." And at their own expense, at the Brussels session they will be asked to accelerate implementation of the long-term arms "modernization program" adopted 2 years ago in Washington, increase military expenditure and enhance their armed forces' combat readiness.

The arm-twisting in Brussels is taking place to the accompaniment of the din of NATO military maneuvers being held--not fortuitously--in the Mediterranean, as close as possible to the explosive Near East and Persian Gulf regions.

According to LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS, the debate in Brussels "promises to be stormy." A growing number of West Europeans are realizing the dual danger of subordination to trans-atlantic diktat--the encouragement of Washington hegemonism, and the fueling of tension in Europe. The continent's peoples will probably have substantial objections to militarism's sinister plans.

TURKISH COMMISSION NOTES 'NEGATIVE INFLUENCE' OF U.S. BASES

LD162234 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0940 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Ankara, 16 May (TASS)--The presence of American bases on Turkish territory might have a negative influence on relations between Turkey and the Soviet Union and with countries of the Near and Middle East. This conclusion was reached by a commission of the Turkish Senate, which familiarized itself directly on the spot with the activity of the bases. As the press reports, in a confidential report of the commission prepared for the Senate, it is alleged at the same time that while the "defense objects"--this is what the American bases are called--are used "for NATO purposes," they supposedly cannot be used in attacking neighboring countries. However, it is well-known that the NATO military bloc, where the United States is leader, pursues far from peaceful aims.

Coming out for "effective control" on the part of the Turkish Government over the activity of the bases, the authors of the report virtually admit that there is no such control and that the American military is boss at the bases. The senators express serious doubts that these bases and objects are being used jointly by both sides, as was provided for by the recently signed Turkish-American agreement on cooperation in defense and the economy. The Turkish senators' report confirms the entire correctness of fears of the democratic public of Turkey with regard to the possible consequences of the American military presence on Anatolian soil. The Turkish press has stressed more than once that U.S. bases in Turkey may be used without the knowledge of the Turkish authorities for carrying out the Pentagon's militarist adventures in adjacent countries. And this, the papers write, means grave danger to peace in the area and threatens Turkey itself.

SOVIET-SPANISH TRADE COMMITTEES MEET IN BARCELONA

LD160310 Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Madrid, May 15, TASS--The Spanish-Soviet and the Soviet-Spanish committees for the promotion of trade between the USSR and Spain held their fourth joint meeting in Barcelona. The two sides noted with satisfaction a considerable increase in two-way trade which has grown seven-fold since the two countries signed a trade agreement in 1972. During the meeting the two committees signed a protocol setting forth a programme for promoting the further growth of commercial and economic ties between the two countries in 1980-1981.

BANI-SADR, KHOMEYNI CITED ON NEW U.S. 'PROVOCATION'

LD161330 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov writes:

President of Iran Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has reported that a new American provocation against Iran is being prepared: 96 agents and saboteurs in a few groups penetrated into the territory of the country with a view to create an atmosphere of instability in different towns of Iran.

This report shows once again that along with military threats, direct armed provocations and economic sanctions Washington conducts a course of undermining the gains of the Islamic revolution from within, resorting for the purpose to dirty CIA methods.

It was exactly the American espionage agency, as was reported by the Iranian press, which provoked with the help of its agents and former SAVAK new armed clashes in Iranian Kordestan, Baluchestan and Khuzestan in a bid to kindle national and religious strife. American spies provoked disturbances in January, and as a result of those disturbances the blood of innocent people was spilt in Qom, Tabriz and other Iranian towns.

It was also reported that the Iranian authorities have at their disposal documents which show that since the very first days of the formation of the Islamic republic the CIA with the knowledge of the U.S. Department of State tried to establish a close contact with some political and religious leaders of Iran to knock together a pro-American front that would hamper Ayatollah Khomeyni's activities.

It becomes clearer now that the raid of a group of terrorists at the building of the Iranian Embassy in London was inspired from overseas in order to kindle internal contradictions in Iran.

The Iranian people resolutely protest against gross interference of the United States into the country's internal affairs. In his radio and television message to the working people on May Day occasion, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khomeyni emphasized that the hand of American imperialism and its agents is clearly seen in provoking armed clashes in the suburbs of Iran, in fanning up student disturbances and making explosions in Ahvaz, Tehran and other places. "Carter in his deeds", he said came over from bellicose threats to brigandage and from military interference to underground and subversive activities....

But our people shall remain undaunted."

IRANIAN AYATOLLAH ON ARREST OF 2 AMERICANS

LD161701 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Tehran, May 16, TASS--Iranian Attorney General Ayatollah Qoddusi has stated that there are 1,500-1,700 prisoners in Iran now charged with counterrevolutionary activities or collaboration with the shah's regime.

Qoddusi said that two American citizens were arrested recently because of their involvement in counterrevolutionary actions.

SYRIAN COMMISSION MEMBER TO TEHRAN FOR DIRECT CONTACTS

LD181048 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] New York, May 18, TASS--An official spokesman for U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said that following consultations with the Government of Iran and with the latter's consent Adib al-Daoudi, Syrian lawyer, member of the international commission of inquiry into Iran's claims concerning the crimes of the former shah and U.S. activities in Iran, is to go to Tehran within the next few days to resume direct contacts with the Iranian authorities. He is to discuss problems concerning the resumption of the work of this international commission and fulfillment of its functions, including the preparation of a report so as to resolve the crisis in relations between Iran and the United States.

'KILLING' KHOMEYNI 'MUST NOT BE RULED OUT' AS MISSION AIM

LD172236 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] The piratical provocations of the United States against Iran has caused a disturbance throughout the world and made people ponder the aims and the methods of the current U.S. administration's foreign policy.

The first thing one sees are the methods and the lies used to conceal the United States' hostile plans and acts against the Soviet Union. In the last 4 months alone, U.S. and British newspapers and magazines, almost daily carried for provocative reasons maps of the Middle East with red arrows pointing from the Soviet borders across Iran, from Abadan to the Strait of Hormuz, while other arrows pointed from Afghanistan to Pakistani territory.

The Voice of America and the BBC portrayed the entry of Soviet forces into Afghanistan as an attempt to set up a bridgehead for an attack on Iran and Pakistan. But what is the truth of the matter? Soviet forces in Afghanistan do not take part with the government forces in repelling the armed attacks of mercenary gangs who are sent from Pakistani territory. Moreover, they do not cross the borders of Iran or Pakistan nor do they intend to do this in the future. As for the United States which has become the new friendly ally of the Islamic nations, it insolently attacked the territory of the sovereign Islamic Republic of Iran.

The question is asked: Why did more than 12 U.S. transport planes land marines in the Iranian desert? Carter, Brzezinski and Brown claim they were trying to rescue the hostages. It is not difficult, however, to surmise that rescuing the hostages was not a great concern in the minds of the U.S. administration. Tehran is a large city and has no airport in the outskirts, like Entebbe Airport where Israeli commandoes landed under the pretext of rescuing the hostages. It is unlikely that Washington did not realise that the attack by its marines on the Iranian capital could not promise success. This however, does not mean that the marines did not have another mission. The place where they landed is halfway between Qom--headquarters of Ayatollah Khomeyni--and Tehran. In this light, one must not rule out that the task of the marines was also aimed at attacking Qom and trying to kidnap or kill Khomeyni. For a long time Washington has specialized in engineering the kidnapping of leaders of other states who do not suit the United States. The CIA tried to assassinate the Cuban leader Fidel Castro several times. It also assassinated the former ruler of South Vietnam Ngo Dinh Diem and the dictator of South Korea Pak Chong-hui.

There is another aim which the landing of U.S. marines in Iran was seeking, along with Washington's anti-Soviet uproar: The United States needs a very tense situation in the Middle East in order to establish new bases in the area and speed up the formation of the rapid deployment forces. Some of the countries in this very tense area actually fell into the U.S. trap. Kenya and Oman not very long ago agreed to grant bases to the United States. Somalia and Pakistan followed suit later.

In these circumstances some Arab personalities no longer adopted the rigid attitude which they had earlier maintained toward the proposals of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, the most avowed enemies of the Arab nation, to offer the territory of their countries for stationing U.S. bases. The new bases must be the main centers for attack by the rapid deployment force. As to the question whether or not the United States risked the landing of its marines in Iran where no military bases exist, it is not difficult to imagine the dangerous situation which threatens the sovereignty and independence of countries which voluntarily offer their territory for stationing U.S. forces.

Time has shown that every violent campaign against the Soviet Union has concealed a strong encroachment by the United States on the freedom and independence of nations.

PROTOCOL ON ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION DISCUSSED

NC161849 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] PARS news agency has reported that the Iranian Islamic Republic [as heard] Council has approved the draft protocol on economic and technical cooperation with the Soviet Union in 1980. Our commentator on this occasion:

Soviet-Iranian economic and technical cooperation dates back more than 50 years. The permanent committee for Soviet-Iranian economic cooperation, formed 12 years ago, is an important and effective instrument for the expansion of trade and economic relations between the two countries. During the past 12 years, the committee held eight meetings and studied matters pertaining to the results of the cooperative ventures and the possibilities for the expansion of trade and economic relations between our two countries, as well as specific matters related to Soviet-Iranian cooperation in the construction and commissioning of industrial units constructed in Iran with Soviet technical assistance.

Soviet and Iranian experts met some time ago in Tehran. During their talks the readiness of Soviet and Iranian organizations to expand economic relations on the basis of mutual benefits, good neighborliness, equality of rights and nonintervention in one another's affairs was announced. The committee members expressed satisfaction with the continuation of Soviet-Iranian cooperation in the fields of construction as well as the exploitation of a number of industrial and economic units in Iran. For instance, the Esfahan steel complex continues to operate without interruption while the necessary steps for increasing the unit's output up to 1.9 million tons of steel annually are being undertaken.

During the postrevolution period the first unit of the Ramin thermal power plant near Ahvaz, which is being built with Soviet cooperation, was commissioned. Soviet and Iranian organizations are recently cooperating in the construction and exploitation of about 140 production units.

Soviet-Iranian experts also agreed on the draft text of the principles governing the activity of the Soviet-Iranian permanent committee on economic cooperation. The fundamental social changes which have taken place in Iran following the anti-shah and anti-imperialist revolution in Iran are reflected in this document.

In conclusion our commentator writes: One can say that the approval of the 1980 Soviet-Iranian protocol on economic and technical cooperation by the Islamic Republic [as heard] Council will result in the expansion and consolidation of trade and economic relations between the two countries based on the principles of equal rights and mutual benefits.

MOSCOW PERSIAN ON ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-IRANIAN DIPLOMATIC TIES

NC161905 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 May 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The date 20 May 1980 marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of Soviet-Iranian diplomatic relations. On that day the Soviet Union announced its sincere welcome of the Iranian Government's decision to send a diplomatic delegation to Moscow for the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Iran paved the way for strengthening Soviet-Iranian cooperation in all spheres of activity. In the 26 February 1921 agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Iran, relations based on the principle of complete equality of rights, respect for national sovereign rights and the recognition of the full right to self-determination under law were confirmed. The importance of the new principles of Soviet relations with countries of the East lies in the fact that, first of all, these relations totally weakened--from both the legal and political aspect--the bases of the binding international agreements that had been exchanged with the participation of tsarist Russia. Secondly, by establishing relations of equal rights between Soviet Russia and countries of the East a situation arose which the imperialist countries could no longer ignore.

In the history of Soviet-Iranian relations there is not one single instance of the Soviet Union violating the conditions of agreements jointly compiled and based on the equality of rights and the insuring of mutual benefits.

Now some abroad are trying to place America's imperialist and hegemonist policy on the same level as the Soviet Union's peace-seeking Leninist policy. Without any basis or reason they say that the policy of diktat and harshness is part of the make-up of any big nation, irrespective of its social system. But the Soviet Union, which is a big nation, has always been and continues to be the guardian of the just rights of all big and small nations, including Socialist Vietnam, revolutionary Iran, the Palestinian Arabs and the Africans of Namibia. The efforts by imperialist and reactionary circles to cast a shadow on the extremely lucid, clearcut Soviet policy on Iran are completely in vain and futile. The entire history of Soviet-Iranian relations and any act by the Soviet Government during the 60 years marking the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries show that the Soviet Union supports relations of good neighborliness, cooperation and friendship with Iran. Both during the first days of the October Revolution with the genesis of Soviet-Iranian relations and now 60 years later--at a time when imperialist forces are resorting to aggressive acts against Iran--the Soviet Union has announced its definite and unflinching support for revolutionary Iran, which is struggling for its independence. It is clear to all that it is not the Soviet Union, but the United States of America which is now speaking to Iran in the language of diktat and ultimatum. It is the United States of America, not the Soviet Union, which is impudently interfering in Iran's domestic affairs.

Not a day passes without Washington threatening the Iranian people and without it saying what new consequences will come if Iran does not accept America's ultimatum. The consistent behavior of Soviet foreign policy, which is based on principles [word indistinct] the very important specifications of the Leninist policy. This policy was once again confirmed in the messages sent by Leonid Brezhnev to leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeyni, and to the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bani-Sadr, on the first anniversary of the declaration of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this message it is stressed that Soviet policy on Iran is a policy of sincere friendship and of good neighborliness which reflects our wish for the expansion of all aspects of the relations between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic of Iran on the basis of equal rights and beneficial cooperation.

CABINET RESIGNATION PART OF EGYPTIAN REORGANIZATION

LD151311 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 80 p 5

[TASS report: "Cabinet's Resignation"]

[Text] Cairo, 12 May--Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and the government he heads handed in their resignations today.

This step was taken on instructions from President as-Sadat and is a component part of the wide-ranging internal reform which the As-Sadat regime has planned and for which As-Sadat has frequently mentioned the need in the past.

At a press conference organized here the former prime minister noted that the departure from the political arena of the government he headed is aimed at giving the head of state the opportunity to create "a more effective administration." As-Sadat intends to announce the details of the forthcoming reform on 14 May. M. Khalil stressed during the press conference that he himself and the members of the resigned cabinet are prepared to hold any post which the president offers them.

In the opinion of observers, As-Sadat's "reorganization" reflects his fears in connection with the mounting instability in the country's domestic situation as a result of the intensifying economic disorders and Egyptians' growing dissatisfaction with the country's foreign policy course and primarily the so-called "normalization" of relations with Israel within the framework of the separate Camp David deal. Under these conditions the authorities had to create the semblance of "changes" in order to release pent-up pressure and thus avoid an eruption of popular indignation. Commentators do not rule out the possibility that As-Sadat himself will perform the functions of prime minister, concentrating all the leading state posts in his hands.

AS-SADAT SHAKING WITH 'MIDDLE EAST FEVER'

LD161353 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--TASS commentary Yuriy Tyssovskiy writes:

The Egyptian leadership is shaking in the grip of Middle East fever. President as-Sadat keeps going hot and cold.

As far as back as May 8 he announced that he "temporarily suspends" negotiations with Israel on the notorious "administrative autonomy" for the Palestinians after almost 12-month long wrangling with Israel's representatives in Alexandria, Beer Sheba, Gaag, Herzliya and other towns and health-resort settlements, which lie away from the eyes of the world public. As-Sadat's attempts to get from Israeli Premier Begin though some concessions in the question of the "Palestinian autonomy" in order to pose in the eyes of the Arabs as a champion of "all-Arabs interests" encountered "Zionist ideals" of the Israeli leaders who took the course of annexation of Arab lands captured 13 years ago as a result of a bandit aggression. Irritated As-Sadat decided to "scare" Israel by declaring that he suspends negotiations.

In Tel Aviv they, however, did not care a rag and declared that for Cairo there is no going away and that negotiations would resume. And really, speaking on Wednesday at the People's Assembly, As-Sadat said that neogitations would be continued since he was argued into doing so by telephone by President Jimmy Carter himself. And then on Thursday came another entrechat: In Cairo it was officially announced that Egypt again refused to resume the negotiations.

In Egypt they are trying to explain this step as the consequence of "intractibility" of Israel which yesterday legislatively endorsed the annexation of the Arab part of Jerusalem. What did As-Sadat think about when he undertook the voyage, broadly advertised on television, to the self-same Jerusalem in November 1977, paying for the aggressors's promises to return the Sinai with the consent to consolidation of the Israeli occupation of other Arab lands and Jerusalem itself?

As to fits of political fever on the shores of the Nile--these are easy to explain. As-Sadat is rusing about to find a way out of the impasse and isolation which he drove himself into, and not only himself but also the 40 million-strong Egyptian people. But the logic of As-Sadat's capitulatory course is such: that he will inevitably bow to Tel Aviv's diktat and Washington which backs it, thus admitting the uselessness of attempts to pose as a certain "defender" of the Arab interests.

TIMOSHKIN: AS-SADAT 'NEEDS' AUTONOMY TALKS

LD161844 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 16 May 80

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "On Some of the Statements Made by the Egyptian President in the People's Assembly"]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, Peace be with you. President as-Sadat, who now also occupies the post of prime minister, has delivered a speech in the Egyptian parliament dealing with domestic and foreign policy aims which he plans to pursue as soon as possible.

The foreign policy will be directed toward increasing Egypt's submission to the ambitions of the U.S. neocolonialist ruling classes and toward complete cooperation with the Israeli enemy.

As-Sadat once again declared that the United States will enjoy military facilities in Egypt to help in its intransigeance toward the Iranian revolution. He also said that the United States could benefit from its military facilities in the event of any gulf country needing U.S. help.

It may be said that only one of the gulf states seeks aid from the United States, namely the Sultanate of Oman, which is being turned into a U.S. military base. As to the other gulf states, they all firmly oppose the U.S. military presence in their territory.

As-Sadat poured out invectives and abuse against this attitude of the majority of the Arab states and threatened the Arabs that he would not restore diplomatic relations with them, trying to give the impression that it was he who broke off diplomatic relations with them and not the Arab states that broke off diplomatic relations in protest against his capitulatory unilateral policy.

In his speech in the People's Assembly, he praised the consistency of Israel in implementing the provisions of the Camp David agreements and the so-called bilateral peace treaty. It may be recalled that the overwhelming majority of the Arabs and world public opinion describe these as dishonorable and anti-Arab. All the terms of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty give the green light to the Tel Aviv policy of annexation of Palestinian and Syrian territory which was usurped in 1967 by Israel for good. All those documents carry As-Sadat's signature. Perhaps that is why As-Sadat feels he has to praise Israel for its consistency in the execution of the separate agreement.

Tel Aviv understood matters in its own way and for this reason the Israeli Knesset decided on the very day As-Sadat delivered his speech in parliament to officially declare Jerusalem to be the united and undivided capital of Israel, the favorite expression of Begin, friend of the Egyptian president.

True, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, replying to this decision by the Knesset, declared that if the decision was not reconsidered, the continuation of the autonomy talks would become impossible, but As-Sadat needs the talks, as is known, more than anyone else in order to continue the play of the so-called defense of the rights of the Palestinians. For this reason, Cairo implores its Israeli partners in the Camp David collusion not to conduct themselves in such a provocative manner, as all the parties to the collusion will face many more difficulties in realizing their selfish and biased objectives in the Middle East.

MATVEYEV: AS-SADAT 'OBEDIENT TOOL' OF U.S. POLICY

ID161557 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 May 80 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Matveyev article under the rubric "Political Observer's Notes": "Led by Washington"]

[Text] In accordance with the Pentagon's plans and with zealous assistance from President as-Sadat, Egypt is now being turned into the main U.S. bridgehead in the Near and Middle East. This bridgehead is spearheaded against the states in the region which are seeking to assert their independence and sovereignty in the face of the forces of imperialism.

On 7 April U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, which is connected to official Washington departments, wrote: "As-Sadat is now Washington's most important ally in the Arab world." The term "ally" is used in this case only by clearly stretching a point. The truth, known to all those who have been following even slightly the evolution of Cairo's policy, is that the present Egyptian leader is displaying his readiness to serve Washington in any capacity and to be an obedient tool of U.S. policy in this region.

Even after the failure of the U.S. military's armed act of piracy against Iran, As-Sadat offered to put Egyptian bases at the Pentagon's disposal--for new acts of aggression a-aggression against Iran.

Yet even a small state like Oman, which is regarded as close to the United States, was obliged to protest to Washington about the U.S. military use of the Island of Masirah, which belongs to Oman, to land U.S.. Air Force aircraft en route to Iran. Anti-U.S. demonstrations have swept a number of Near and Middle Eastern countries in connection with the landing of the U.S. assault group on Iranian territory, as part of a broader plan conceived in Washington against Iran.

Pentagon chief H. Brown admitted that for "political reasons" it would be impossible for the United States to obtain permanent military bases on the territory of those Near Eastern countries whose governments are linked with Washington. However, from high rostrums in Cairo it is being said openly that the United States could at any moment acquire such bases in Egypt. Why is Washington not responding publicly to these loyal speeches? Obviously, there are weighty reasons for this.

If there is one thing of which Washington is perfectly aware, it is the fact of As-Sadat's total isolation in the Arab world as a result of his capitulationist policy with regard to Israel. Consequently, to make public the plans elaborated in Washington departments for extensive U.S. use of Egypt against neighboring and other states of the region would be undesirable for the authors of these plans. They would like to push them through without wide publicity. But this has long ceased to be a secret.

"The normalization of relations between Cairo and Israel is one more step on the path of the consolidation of the aggressive bloc between the United States, Israel and the As-Sadat regime aimed primarily against the Egyptian people." This is enshrined in the political declaration adopted recently by the conference of Steadfastness and Confrontation Front heads of state. The conference gave M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, full powers to act as liaison on the front's behalf with the Soviet Union to study possibilities for the further development of relations between the USSR and the front with a view to increasing support to the front and, as the declaration says, of ensuring military-political equilibrium in the region and strengthening and intensifying relations between the USSR and the front countries.

The Arab countries and peoples defending their legitimate rights and interests have loyal friends. That is what disturbs those who are nurturing far-reaching plans against the peoples' freedom and independence and playing the shameful role of the imperialist plunderers' hangers-on.

Recent events have shown particularly graphically the goals really served by the ballyhoo Washington and Cairo are continuing over alleged "threatening Soviet intentions" in the Near and Middle East. To the accompaniment of this slanderous ballyhoo provocative new actions are being undertaken against the Islamic revolution in Iran, U.S. military forces are being built up in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, and impudent pressure is being brought to bear on the countries of this region which Washington would like to use as tools of U.S. expansionist policy. And As-Sadat's regime in Egypt is playing the part of an auxiliary tool in all these efforts by U.S. ruling circles.

It is receiving the recompense that is its due. It is reported that the U.S. Government is planning to give Egypt over $1,124 million next year in the form of credits and free "gifts"--that is, the largest sum in such "subsidies" since 1975. At the same time the United States has embarked on the implementation of a second agreement on deliveries of modern armaments worth a total of $2 billion to Egypt.

Washington's plans for using Egyptian territory as the main base in the Middle and Near East for the "quick reaction forces" which the Pentagon is forming are being made public. The London newspaper THE OBSERVER wrote recently that the United States has approved these plans.

It is characteristic that in neither Washington nor Cairo have official circles denied this OBSERVER report. Only the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM has endeavored to give an assurance that the United States has no intention of stationing U.S. troops in Egypt. It is as though in that case the Pentagon will ask AL-AHRAM how to act!

This is not the first time in Egypt's history that the United States has wanted to use its territory for aggressive pruposes. It is also well known what a stake Washington placed on supplying arms to another of its creatures--the shah's regime in Iran. Evidently some figures in Cairo cannot sleep for thinking of the "laurels" of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. They have forgotten nothing and learned nothing.

"Relapses into the imperialist 'gunboat policy' in its modern guise can lead only to the emergence of dangerous new centers of tension and the aggravation of old ones and worsen the international situation as a whole." This was the warning Comrade L.I. Brezhnev gave in his 24 October 1979 Kremlin speech.

The deployment of U.S. troops and military bases in Egypt , if it becomes a reality, will intensify still further the already dangerous tension in the Near and Middle East. Responsibility for the prevailing situation rests with those who are taking these risky steps and opening their country's doors to the latter-day cold war crusaders.

PDRY'S 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD INTERVIEWED ON GULF SITUATION

LD172250 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 17, TASS--The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is interested that the Red Sea and Persian Gulf areas should be turned into a zone of peace and stability, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammed said in an interview to the Kuwait newspaper 'AL-QABAS. In this connection he refuted the allegations of Western propaganda that Soviet military bases exist in the territory of Democratic Yemen. The Soviet Union does not need any privileges or military bases in our land, 'Ali Nasir Muhammed said. If anybody has military installations in the region it is the United States. Everybody knows well where these bases are situated and who gives various privileges to Americans. By spreading such allegations, the enemies of Arabs try to discredit the Soviet Union, the loyal friend of Arab peoples. At the same time, they keep silent about the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism and about the military presence of the United States in the Middle East. And it is widely known that the United States has a hostile attitude to Arabs and conducts the policy of plundering Arab oil sources.

'Ali Nasir Muhammed said that the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was striving and makes efforts for the establishment of normal relations with Saudi Arabia and other countries of the region, proceeding from the principle of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems, and on the basis of the principles of mutural respect for national sovereignty, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and the right of each country to chose independently its own road of social development.

Answering the question about the stand of the Democratic Yemen with regard to the events 'al: Nasir Muhammed said that these events do not correspond to the picture that the imperialist and reactionary circles try to paint. The Government of Afghanistan asked the Soviet Union, in its turn, also has a right to give this assistance and to grant the request of the Afghan people.

We believe that all these actions are in the framework of bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the USSR and Afghanistan. We support the Soviet Union in these actions since we are aware of the reality of the imperialist plots against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. We know the nature of the development of the situation in Afghanistan and see how the imperialist circles compelled some states to assume a stand hostile to Afghanistan.

Reports on the use of the territory of Sultanate Oman by U.S. troops are in keeping with reality, 'Ali Nasir Muhammed said. Sultan Qabus officially announced his readiness to provide Oman's territory to serve as U.S. military bases allegedly for "prospecting" the Strait of Hormuz. Thus the Qabus regime creates an additional threat to peace and stability in the region. States of the region must be aware of this danger and must feel responsibility for the destiny of the region since U.S. military bases constitute a threat to all states neighbouring on Oman, including the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

PALESTIANIAN LEADER INTERVIEWED ON IMPERIALIST MOVES

LD181806 Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--The peoples of the Arab and Islamic countries are coming out against the dominance of imperialism, against Zionism and Israel's aggressive policy. But there are circles, and quite influential at times, in a number of Arab and Moslem states, which actually serve as vehicles of the aggressive and hegemonic American foreign policy, said Nayif Hawatimah general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, speaking in a TASS interview. Nayif Hawatimah is currently staying in Moscow after his visits to Kampuchea and Vietnam.

The striving of these circles to play into the hand of U.S. imperialism was already manifest at the preceding session of the Islamic Conference Organization in Islamabad, N. Hawatimah went on to say. Acting on Washington's instructions, reactionary Islamic regimes used that forum for interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign Afghan state, although the above-mentioned forces are appearing under the slogan of "Defence of Islam" they are acting in fact from the positions hostile to the peoples of the Moslem countries and are building up tensions in Asia, in the Middle and Near East, the tensions in which imperialism, above all American imperialism, have a stake in order to undermine the development of the revolutionary process in the developing countries.

This line of the U.S. imperialist circles is clearly expressed in Washington provocations against Iran, in the support given by the U.S. to Israel's expansionist and racialist course.

The real enemies of the Moslem states and peoples are Israel, which usurped Jerusalem and is unlawfully occupying Arab lands, and the USA which encourages this course of the Zionists and their conspiracy against the Arab people of Palestine. Washington is openly bringing pressure to bear on the member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization, by imposing on them Carter's "Islam", by trying to distract them from the struggle against the common enemy--the Washington-Tel Aviv-Cairo alliance, from confronting the treacherous Camp David agreement. With this aim the situation in Afghanistan is used as a pretext, and an unbridled anti-Soviet campaign has been unleashed with China's assistance. But the Moslem peoples will be able to tell real friends from false ones!

Touching upon the Middle East problem, Nayif Hawatimah stressed that the USA is doing its utmost in an attempt to galvanise the so-called "peace process" in the Middle East and breathe life into the Camp David deal.

In so doing, Washington intends to act on its own in an attempt to turn the Middle East into its "oil domain". The American administration is now devoting its main attention to the attempts at undermining Arab unity, at severing Jordan and Saudi Arabia from the general Arab front in an attempt to draw them into participation in the Camp David separate deal. In conclusion Nayif Hawatimah called for strengthening the unity of the forces of steadfastness and confrontation to the American plans of enslaving the countries and peoples of the region.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES ARAB SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT

LD151214 Moscow TASS in English 1058 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Beirut, May 15, TASS--Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat has strongly condemned American imperialism's aggressive policy.

Addressing the participants in the session of the International Secretariat of the World Congress for Solidarity with the Arab Peoples, which opened in the capital of Lebanon, he pointed out that the United States is having recourse to military muscle flexing and buildup of its military presence in the Middle East, striving to establish control over the region's natural resources.

An evidence of this, the Palestinian leader said, is the concentration of U.S. naval vessels in that area, the knocking together of a "quick reaction corps" and the recent U.S. abortive aggressive armed action against Iran.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee pointed out that the developments in the region are a link in the broad imperialist offensive. The USA is deploying new weapons and nuclear missiles in Europe, while holding military exercises in the Caribbean Sea in the opposite part of the globe, near Cuba.

A part of this conspiracy, Yasir 'Arafat said, is also the outcry started around the "defence of Islam" in Afghanistan. While displaying such "concern", the Palestinian leader stressed, the USA is at the same time disregarding the suppression of Islam by Israel in Jerusalem.

George Hawi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lebanon, stressed in his speech at the session the great significance of the strengthining of the bonds of friendship between the Arab peoples and the socialist states. He pointed out the tremendous role of the aid given by the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community for a successful development of the Arab national-liberation movement.

MILITARY TAKES OVER IN UGANDA, OBOTE TO RETURN

LD151517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 80 p 5

[Correspondent A. Serbin dispatch: "Uganda: President Ousted"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 13 May--According to foreign agency reports from Kampala, the Uganda National Liberation Front Military Commission has deprived President G. Binaisa of his powers as head of state and has taken over the execution of this function. It has called on the population to remain calm.

It is reported from Dar es Salaam that former President of Uganda M. Obote has reiterated that he has no links with the military commission. He also reaffirmed his intention of returning to Uganda at the end of May.

New Cabinet Formed

LD181615 Moscow TASS in English 1533 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Kampala, May 18, TASS--The Military Commission of Uganda's National Liberation Front, which ousted President Godfrey Binaisa last week, announced today that it had formed a new cabinet including 24 civilians. It has been announced also that Commander of the National Liberation Army of Uganda Colonel Tito Okello, Uganda's Army Chief of Staff David Ojok Oyite, Colonels Zeddi Maluru and William Omaria have been included into the new cabinet as members without portfolio.

Otema Olimadi has been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sam Tewungwa--minister of the interior. The post of the country's defence minister will be held by six members of the Military Commission, an official representative said on Uganda Radio.

The new Ugandan cabinet includes one woman--Education Minister Namirembe Bitamanziri.

Role of 'Tribal Sentiments'

LD162244 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Western news agencies report that the situation in Uganda is returning to normal after the removal of President Binaisa. Members of the Military Commission which took over the functions of the president made their first public statement at the international conference center in Kampala yesterday. Our observer Vladimir Petrov has this comment:

The situation in Uganda remains unchanged. The opinion prevails in the Western news media that a military takeover has occurred in the country. The Military Commission, however, denies that categorically, saying that this action should be qualified as a measure of a political nature. The situation is indeed difficult, but it would be even more difficult to establish the chief reason that has led to a sharp deterioration of the situation in the country. Apparently, the tribal sentiments which were so much encouraged in Uganda in the colonial period play a big role in the current developments there. The divide-and-rule policy, that is, a policy of setting one ethnic group against another, enabled the colonialists to freely rule in the country and plunder its people. The colonialists saw to it that the poisoned seed of intertribal strife could give shoots after their withdrawal.

Naturally, the granting of independence alone could not result immediately in the elimination of the leftovers of the grim colonial past in the country's economy and the people's confidence. The colonial past, exacerbated by the years of the Amin dictatorship, does not yet allow Uganda to embark on the road of normal development. The country is still short of currency and transportation means, factories do not work at full capacity, the cost of living is going up, and contributing to the already difficult situation are frequent cases of profiteerring, crimes, smuggling murder and robbery.

Experience shows that the situation grows worse when an attempt is made to resolve social and political problems on a tribal basis. Africa has seen quite a few outbursts of tribalism, that poisoned fruit of colonialism. These outbursts brought a lot of suffering and waste of material and manpower resources. Africa at the same time knows quite a few examples of wise solution of the conflicts caused by tribalism. Those solutions stem from the desire to promote national unity and improve the living conditions of ordinary people who usually bear the brunt of this or that political (?crisis).

It's hard to predict now what turn the current developments in Uganda will take. One thing is obvious, however: that only a clear-cut policy line aimed at bettering the conditions of the rank-and-file Ugandans may help lead the country out of the state of political instability.

AUCCTU MESSAGE TO ANGOLAN TU CONDEMNS SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS

LD112000 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 11 May 80

[Text] AUCCTU, in a short message addressed to the National Union of Angolan Workers, has condemned the constant attacks perpetrated by the South African racist forces against our country.

The message stresses that the concentration of the Pretoria racist regime's forces on the border is irrefutable proof of the escalation of provocations by the South African Government against Angola's revolutionary people, who are engaged on the road toward socialism.

Millions of Soviet workers, members of the trade unions, indignantly condemn those aggressive actions and resolutely declare their fraternal solidarity with the heroic Angolan people led by their vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party, the message from the AUCCTU says.

CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ANGOLA, SAO TOME

LD160959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Ties Developing"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation, headed by Ye. K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Tomskiy CPSU Obkom, returned to Moscow on 8 May from a trip to the People's Republic of Angola and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome e Principe.

In Angola the delegation participated in celebrations marking the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

BORGE HITS U.S. 'INTERFERENCE,' LAUDS USSR AID

ID151059 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 80 p 6

[L. Kostanyan dispatch: "The Dawn Has Ceased To Be a Dream"]

[Excerpts] Managua, May--"The task of every recently victorious revolution consists primarily in consolidating the patriotic forces and strengthening unity in the ranks of the working class," Tomas Borge, member of the National Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front [FSLN] and minister of the interior, said in conversation with a PRAVDA correspondent. "The power in our country now belongs to the people. Today the main thing is for us to develop the political consciousness of the working class and all working people and in the economic sphere to restore the ruined economy. We need solidarity to do it. And this cannot be secured by any decree. We must work actively but patiently here.

"In our country today there are counterrevolutionary elements which are urging workers and peasants to voice demands for the prompt solution of economic problems and are purposely causing conflict between working people and the revolutionary authorities. But the counterrevolutionaries have made a mistake: The political consciousness of our people is growing rapidly. The broad masses of the people understand that everything cannot be done at once and that living conditions will invariably improve during the revolutionary process. Our reply to the intrigues of counterrevolution is to strengthen our ranks' cohesion," T. Borge concluded.

The display of solidarity, especially on the part of the Cuban people, is clearly not to the liking of the Nicaraguan revolution's opponents. Hence the constant talk in U.S. political circles of the "Cuban presence in Nicaragua," of the possible emergence of a "second Cuba." During my stay in Managua it was just being decided whether or not the U.S. Congress would approve up to $75 million in credits to the Nicaraguan Government. In the end, under CIA pressure, a decision to "freeze" credit was adopted.

U.S. attempts to exert pressure by resorting to economic levers are angrily rebuffed in Nicaragua. Members of the FSLN leadership declare aloud and publicly, at frequent, crowded meetings, in the newspaper BARRICALA and in television appearances that the country's sovereignty is not to be bought with dollars, and they condemn the CIA's attempts to interfere in internal affairs.

Tomas Borge also dwelt on this in his conversation with me. Obviously, he said, our victory signifies substantial changes in the political geography of Central America and in the life of all Latin America. A direct result is increasing people's struggle. The search is going on for paths leading to a better life and to freedom from the fetters of imperialism.

"We are sincerely grateful to the Soviet people for their solidarity with our struggle and our revolution," Tomas Borge said in conclusion. "My first acquaintance with the Soviet Union was all of 20 years ago, through the book "A Nicaraguan in Moscow" by Carlos Fonseca Amador (one of the founders and ideologists of the Sandinist movement who was in the USSR in 1957). Carlos Fonseca Amador died in combat and did not live to see the dawn of the new life for which he so longed. I have dedicated a book to him, completed since the revolution. It is called 'Carlos, the Dawn Has Ceased To Be a Dream.'"

CSA REPORTS PROGRESS OF FIELD WORK IN VARIOUS AREAS

LD151022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that to 12 May spring crops have been sown on almost 65 million hectares. Overall, this is 44 percent of the area earmarked for these crops. Sowing has been completed in Azerbaijan and work is near completion in Tadzhikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Mass sowing is under way in the Volga Valley and the Central Chernozem, Volga-Vyatka and Urals regions. Machine operators of northern Kazakhstan, Siberia and the Far East have taken their units out into the fields. We will report on the progress of sowing in these areas a little later.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 15-18 MAY

LD160246/LD170712/LD180706/LD190206 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 15-18 May. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

15 May

Corn sowing has started in Primorskiy Kray. At least 100,000 hectares are to be sown to corn, with a procurement total of about 2 million tons of high-quality silage. Tuva: Mass grain sowing is under way and 245,000 hectares are to be sown. (0000 GMT)

Saratovskaya Oblast: Grain sowing is under way on the fourth and final million hectares. The wheat, barley,and sunflower sowing rate is double last year's. Omskaya Oblast: An all out effort is being made to complete the spring sowing in 10-12 working days. Kemerovskaya Oblast: Pulse sowing is over. In steppe areas, high-yield "Omskaya-9" wheat is being sown. (0100 GMT)

Mass wheat sowing begins today in Novosibirskaya Oblast. The soil has warmed up well in the good weather. Presowing work was carried out on practically the whole of the more than 3 million hectares. There will be wide use this year of new varieties of wheat, barley, oats, peas and buckwheat specially bred for Siberian conditions. (0500 GMT)

The sowing campaign is a great success: For the first time 27 million hectares have been sown to spring crops in a mere week. Spring crops have now been sown to 44 percent of the planned acreage. Sowing started today in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya and Novosibirskaya Oblasts. In Kuybyshevskaya Oblast the sowing of grain crops is drawing to a close. And in southern Turkmenia the harvest of grain has begun. (1000 GMT)

The sowing of corn has been completed in Moldavia. The late spring delayed work. The machine operators worked in two shifts. Thanks to efficient utilization of the integrated mechanized detachments in the inter-kolkhoz association for mechanization and electrification in agricultural production the sowing was carried out close to the optimum period. All the corn for grain over an area of 345,000 hectares is being cultivated using industrial technology. (1430 GMT)

Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast: Mass sowing of wheat has begun. It is to occupy 12 million hectares. The work is to be completed in 8 to 10 days. Kustanayskaya Oblast: Some 5,000 complexes and mechanized links are now sowing wheat, using the Ipatovo method. (1445 GMT)

16 May

Sowing of grain crops, sugarbeet and sunflowers has been completed in Krasnodarskiy Kray. Kaliningradskaya Oblast has completed sowing of early grain crops. (0500 GMT)

In Omskaya Oblast, 100,000 hectares have been sown to wheat. (1100 GMT)

Despite starting 2 weeks late because of the cold spring, Latvian farmers have sown 80 percent of the area planned for grain crops, which is more than at this time last year. (1430 GMT)

17 May

Spring sowing is being completed on the second million hectares today in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, which is 80 percent of the plan. The sowing rate exceeds last year's by 1 and 1/2 times. (0205 GMT)

Sowing of early spring crops is under way on the fourth and final million hectares in Saratovskaya Oblast. In Permskaya Oblast, farmers have already sown more than 700,000 hectares of grain crops, which is three times more than at this time last year. (0500 GMT)

In Tselinogradskaya and Kustanayskaya oblasts, farmers are working up to the calculated rates for sowing wheat. (1330 GMT)

In Omskaya Oblast 200,000 hectares have been sown to wheat, barley and oats so far. Mass sowing of wheat is in progress in Kurganskaya Oblast, where a record 100,000 hectares were sown in the past 24 hours. (1600 GMT)

Mass sowing of wheat has begun in Orenburgskaya Oblast, where farmers have pledged to sell the state more than 3.8 million tons of grain crops despite the difficult spring conditions. (2100 GMT)

18 May

Farmers in Altanyskiy Kray are sowing their second millionth hectare. This year grain crop acreage will be more than 4.5 million hectares. (0100 GMT)

In Kustanayskaya Oblast, the sowing rate has reached almost 300,000 hectares per day, and in Kokchetavskaya Oblast, 150,000 hectares. The pace of potato planting is increasing across the country. Planting has been completed on 900,000 hectares, which is one-third of the planned area. This year the intention is to sell the state more than 17 million tons of potatoes. (0400 GMT)

Sowing of sugar beet has been completed in Altayskiy Kray, where the crop covers 60,000 hectares. Spring wheat is due to be sown on over 3.5 million hectares. (0700 GMT)

In Pavlodarskaya Oblast, wheat, millet and barley are being sown on 100,000 hectares daily. Orlovskaya Oblast concluded sowing of grain crops today. Wheat, barley and oats occupy 550,000 hectares. Farmers have pledged 730,000 tons of grain crops. (1200 GMT)

BREZHNEV COMMENTS AT 18th ARMY MEETING NOTED

LD121852 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 12 May 80

["Leonid Brezhnev Meeting With War Veterans"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--A traditional meeting of the veterans of the legendary 18th Army was held here. Participants came here from different parts of the country--heroes of battles for Novorossiisk, Tuapse and Kerch, participants in the battles for liberating the Ukraine, Poland, Hungary Romania and Czechoslovakia.

Combat friends were joined by the warmly welcomed by all participants General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Marshal of the Soviet Unian Leonid Brezhnev who, during the war, together with the soldiers and officers of the 18th Army, traversed its heroic path from Novorossiisk to Prague. [sentence as received]

Addressing the veterans, Leonid Brezhnev cordially congratulated his comrades-in-arms with the 35th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany, thanked them for their warm congratulations on the occasion of his being awarded the Lenin prize.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, Leonid Brezhnev expressed to the former soldiers and officers of the army a profound gratitude for their combat exploits in the war years, for their selfless work in rehabilitation and development of the national economy.

It became a good tradition, he said, for each combat unit which took part in the war to arrange meetings of veterans. They have many things to recall because our heroic army not only defended its country but also saved the peoples of Europe from fascist slavery.

Leonid Brezhnev then spoke about the implementation of the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, of the plans and objectives of the last year of the five-year period, of how the party and the Soviet state are carrying out the programme for a further improvement of the well-being of the Soviet people.

Touching upon international problems, Leonid Brezhnev stressed that the CPSU and the Soviet state will continue to do everything possible to preserve peace will continue to do everything possible to preserve peace in the world and to give a worthy rebuff to the schemes of reactionaries and imperialists.

USTINOV ORDER OF THE DAY FOR VE DAY

LD151213 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 80 p 2

[Text of USSR "Minister of Defense Order of the Day No 125," dated 9 May 1980, Moscow]

[Text] Comrade soldiers and seamen, sergeants and petty officers!

Comrade warrant officers and ensigns!

Comrade officers, generals and admirals!

Comrade army and navy veterans, participants in the Great Patriotic War!

Today the Soviet people and their troops, the working people of the fraternal countries of socialism and all progressive mankind are celebrating the 35th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany.

The heroic Soviet people and their armed forces, under Communist Party leadership, performed an unfading exploit by crushing Hilerite Germany and then militarist Japan. During the war years Soviet people at the front and in the rear displayed unprecedented steadfastness, unbending will for victory, mass heroism and wholehearted love for the socialist homeland and made a decisive contribution to the rout of world imperialism's shock forces.

The historic victory in the Great Patriotic War was a striking manifestation of the strength of socialism, a convincing demonstration of the great advantages, viability and indestructibility of the Soviet social and state system and socialist economy, the triumph of Marxist-Leninist ideology, the moral and political unity of Soviet society and the friendship of the USSR peoples.

The Soviet people's victory over fascism had an immense revoutionizing influence on the fate of all mankind. It brought the European peoples freedom from Hitlerite slavery and contributed to the growth of socialist forces, the mighty upsurge of the workers and national liberation movements and the collapse of imperialism's colonial system.

In the postwar years our people, led by the Communist Party, achieved outstanding successes in all spheres of economic, political and cultural building. The 35th victory anniversary is illuminated by the glorious Lenin jubilee. Lenin's ideas and behests have served and will always continue to serve for Soviet people as an inexhaustible source of creative energy and inspiration in the struggle for the victory of communism. The armed forces troops and all our motherland's working people are fully resolved to mark the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan with new achievements in fulfilling the historic 25th party congress and CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum decisions.

The Communist Party and Soviet state are consistently and persistently struggling to implement the peace program and to do all they can to ensure that detente remains the leading trend in international relations.

However, the bellicose circles of imperialism, seeking at all costs to hinder the positive changes taking place in the world, are stepping up their aggressive intrigues, cranking up the arms race and trying to change the correlation of forces in the world arena in their favor. The Chinese leadership, which pursues a great-power, hegemonist policy hostile to the cause of peace and socialism, is acting as imperialism's direct accomplice.

Maintaining great vigilance in respect of the imperialists' sinister designs, the Communist Party and Soviet Government and the entire Soviet people are displaying great concern for strengthening our motherland's defense capability and its armed forces' combat strength.

Soviet troops, true to the heroic traditions, are persistently improving their military expertise, enhancing combat readiness and strengthening discipline and organization. Closely united around the Communist Party, its Leninist Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, they are reliably guarding the Soviet land's borders and are ever ready, alongside the Warsaw Pact states' armies to rebuff any aggressor.

I greet and congratulate army and navy personnel, USSR Armed Forces veterans and all who took part in the war on the great victory festival!

To mark the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War I order that:

30-gun salutes be fired today, 9 May, at 2100 hours local time in our motherland's capital, the Hero-City of Moscow, in the union republic capitals, in the hero-cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Sevastopol, Odessa, Novorossiysk, Kerch and Tula, the hero-fortress of Brest and the cities of Murmansk, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk and Vladivostok.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the battles for our motherland's freedom and independence!

Long live the heroic Soviet people and their valiant armed forces!

Long live the CPSU--inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

[Signed] USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov.

MOSKALENKO WRITES IN IZVESTIYA ON VICTORY DAY

LD190907 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 80 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union K. Moskalenko, USSR deputy defense minister: "The Soviet People's Great Feat"]

[Excerpts] On 9 May Soviet people are celebrating the great and joyous holiday--the 35th anniversary of their unfading victory over Hitlerite Germany in the Great Patriotic War. They are greeting this holiday in an atmosphere of patriotic upsurge and major successes in building communism and in the intensive struggle for peace.

The historic victory day will always be a bright and unforgettable chapter in the heroic annals of the Soviet state. On that day we can take even greater pride in our beloved fatherland and the mighty Soviet Army. It bore on its shoulders the brunt of the war and played a decisive role in the achievement of victory over the dark forces of Nazism and militarism, the victory of progress and humanism over reaction and barbarism. This day arouses in our hearts with special force the feeling of profound gratitude to the wise Leninist party--the leader and organizer of the nationwide struggle against the Hitlerite aggressors. It was the party of communists that gave us faith and strength, staunchness and courage, valor and resolution, that mobilized all the people's forces to the defeat of the perfidious enemy. It was the party that led us to the worldwide historic victory.

Our victory is not only history. Having been an important milestone in mankind's destinies, it continues to exert its influence on the development of international life today. Its lessons are a terrible warning to all those who are fond of playing with fire.

The war has left behind in people's hearts and awareness not only the joy of victory, but also a feeling of deep grief because it was won at such a high cost. Our victory was paid for with the lives of millions and millions of our compatriots and antifascists from other countries. And the pain of these losses does not pass with the years. That is why on 9 May the generations of the living, honoring the veterans of the Great Patriotic War and all those who forged and secured our victory, bow their heads before the bright memory of the fearless sons and daughters who gave their lives for their motherland's freedom and independence, for happiness and peace in the world.

The war foisted on the Soviet Union by fascist Germany was the biggest armed action by the strike forces of world imperialism against socialism. In that war the destinies of the world's first socialist state and the future of world civilization were decided.

Fighting of unprecedented fierceness and on an unprecedented scale lasted for 4 long years. The Hitlerites planned to destroy our socialist state and turn Soviet people into slaves. The "Barbarossa" plan elaborated by the General Staff of the Third Reich provided for the blitz destruction of the USSR. Its "strategists" seemed to have thought of everything: intelligence data, the strength of our army, the power of strikes in decisive salients, the suddenness of the attack.... But they had seriously miscalculated. They had not thought of the main thing--the invincible spirit of our people defending their socialist motherland.

The terrible trials of the first period of the war did not shake Soviet people's staunchness or their faith in the victory of the just cause, did not break our servicemen's fighting spirit. "Our cause is just. The enemy will be vanquished. Victory will be ours!"--On this call from the party, the whole country rose to the mortal combat, the whole people rose to the sacred war against fascism. The world was struck by Soviet people's heroism. In a short space of time the country was turned into a single combat camp, the economy was restructured in the interests of supplying the front. Mobilization took place in an organized way. Hundreds of thousands of Soviet patriots voluntarily joined people's militia units. The partisan struggle flared up in occupied territory. The full power and leadership of the struggle against the enemy was concentrated in a single organ--the State Defense Committee headed by Supreme Commander I.V. Stalin, general secretary of the party's Central Committee.

The inspirer and organizer of the Soviet people's struggle against the aggressor was the Communist Party. Its best sons fought in the front line of the struggle against fascism. By the start of 1945 there were 3,325,000 of them in the armed forces--nearly 60 percent of the party's total membership. And among them, for all 4 years of the war, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, now the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and marshal of the Soviet Union, was in the active army. He was always at the front wherever it was particularly difficult, where the destiny of the battle or operation was being decided. That is why his book "Malaya Zemlya" is the inspiring words of a soldier, a communist and a talented politician. It is the words of a man who is well aware of what war is, and who is therefore fighting indefatigably for peace and the peoples' happiness.

The magnitude of the victory secured by our people in the Great Patriotic War is immeasurable. It was a triumph for the new social and state system born in October, the mighty socialist economy, Marxist-Leninist ideology, proletarian internationalism, the moral and political unity of Soviet society and the fraternal friendship between our country's peoples. These are the main sources of our victory. They are still in operation today, giving our state unusual stability, giving our glorious armed forces invincible strength and giving our domestic and foreign policy power and effectiveness.

The postwar decades have not been a period of undisturbed peaceful development for us. We have had to staunchly and firmly overcome nuclear blackmail, cold war, the "position of strength" policy to which aggressive and militarist circles headed by the United States are trying to return today, and more than one dangerous crisis created by them. All this has given rise to the need to further strengthen our defense capability and improve and develop the USSR Armed Forces. This continues today--with strict and accurate consideration of the complex and contradictory international situation, the stepping up of tension and the real military danger from the enemies of peace and socialism.

"All the experience accumulated and the international situation which has arisen, particularly recent facts," L. I. Brezhnev said recently in a speech on receiving the Lenin Prize, "make it incumbent on us to keep our powder dry, to be persistent and consistent in defending the cause of peace and to remember our historical responsibility for the destinies of the motherland and all mankind."

The Soviet people are marking Victory Day in the conditions of an international situation which has deteriorated through the fault of the American administration. This is reflected in the strengthening of the influence exerted on foreign policy by the military industrial complex and the forces of militarism, extreme reactions and anticommunism. NATO's military might is being built up. The American imperialists are striving to obtain military superiority over the socialist countries, pushing the world into a new round of the arms race and creating so-called mobile forces to ensure U.S. fulfillment of the role of world gendarme. The policy of expansion and hegemonism is taking the upper hand over the "spirit of Helsinki" in the White House. All this is taking place to the tune of false cries about the "Soviet military threat." Open, brazen speculation is taking place around events in Afghanistan, where a limited contingent of Soviet troops, at the request of the legitimate Afghan Government, is giving that country assistance in the struggle against external enemies who are encroaching on its freedom and independence.

In these conditions it is the duty and sacred obligation of Soviet servicemen and all Soviet people to step up vigilance toward the intrigues of the enemies of peace and tirelessly strengthen the defense might of the land of the Soviets--the main, reliable bulwark of peace in our restless world.

Counterposing the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security in the world to the "doctrine" of military hysteria and the feverish arms race, the Communist Party and Soviet Government are effectively resolving fundamental tasks of military building and taking care to ensure that our armed forces have at their disposal everything necessary for the reliable defense of the Soviet people. And let nobody assess our love of peace as weakness or try to talk the language of force to us.

The USSR Armed Forces, together with the armies of the other socialist community states belonging to the Warsaw Pact Organization, are the mighty support of all anti-imperialist and national liberation forces. The peoples see them as a force which will not permit imperialism to do its deeds with impunity.

Like any military organization, the Soviet Army is intended for the waging of armed struggle. But inasmuch as it serves the most advanced social system, inasmuch as its military might is directed against those who unleash wars and aggression, it acts as an instrument for averting war and is a mighty factor for maintaining peace throughout the world.

In marking the 35th anniversary of their historic victory over fascism in the Great Patriotic War our people look again and again to the Leninist Communist Party and see its leadership as the guarantee of the further strengthening of the Soviet state's economic and defense might and its positions in the modern world. Soviet servicemen are persistently improving their military skill, improving field, air and naval training and doing everything possible in order to fulfill with honor and dignity the tasks set for the armed forces by the party and government--the tasks of vigilantly watching over the gains of Great October.